

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

## China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LVIII.]

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### BIRTHS.

On the 30th of July, at Newchwang, the wife of D. C. LLOYD WILLIAMS, of a daughter (Marjorie).  
On the 2nd August, at Yokohama, the wife of EDWARD C. DAVIS, of a daughter.  
On the 3rd August, at No. 12 of 6 Yamamoto-dori, Ni-chome, Kobe, the wife of J. A. FARIAS, of Nagasaki, of a daughter.  
On the 3rd August, at Negishi, Japan, the wife of CHARLES V. SALE, of a son.  
On the 9th August, at 4, Dublin Road, Singapore, the wife of Captain J. G. FOLLETT, of a daughter.  
On the 9th August, at "Babington," Barrack Road, Penang, the wife of A. C. VALPY, of a son.  
On the 10th August, at 2, Love Lane, Shanghai, the wife of HAROLD F. KING, of H.B.M. Consular Service in China, of a son.  
On the 12th August, at 3, Boundary Terrace, Range Road, Shanghai, the wife of F. LARGE, of a daughter.  
On the 12th August, at Woodside, Singapore, the wife of J. RUMNEY NICHOLSON, of a son.  
On the 19th August, at 158, Praya East, the wife of WILLIAM FARMER, of a son.

### MARRIAGES.

At the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Roberts, Philadelphia, by the Rev. F. W. Fair, D.D., FREDERICK HOWARD KEY, to CAREY MILDRED, youngest daughter of the late C. HAINES, of Salem, Ohio, U.S.A.  
On the 1st July, at St. Luke's Church, South Melbourne, Australia, by Canon Dickenson, M.A., JOSEPH WHITELEY KEY, to RUBY EVELYN, youngest daughter of the late ISAAC and EDITH HOLT, Minto.  
On the 6th August, at Yokohama, GEORGE MASON BOYES, youngest son of the late Captain FREDERICK SANER BOYES, R.N., to ROSALIE LEONORA KUHN, eldest daughter of the late MAURICE MONTAGUE KUHN, of Yokohama.

### DEATH.

On the 20th July, at York, BENJAMIN CHAPMAN, father of ARTHUR CHAPMAN, Government Assessor, aged 71 years.

### Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.  
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

### ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The Canadian mail of the 9th ult., arrived per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of India* on the 18th inst. (40 days); the German mail of the 21st ult. arrived per N. D. L. steamer *Bayern* on the 18th inst. (28 days); and the American mail of the 23rd ult., arrived per steamer *Doric* on the 19th inst. (27 days).

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Marshal Su, late of Kwangsi, has been sentenced to decapitation in the autumn.

After three days of blank plague returns one more fatal Chinese case was notified in Saturday's return, making the second case in Hongkong last week.

H.M.S. *Leviathan* arrived at Singapore on the evening of the 20th inst. A cable was received next day ordering her to sail full speed to Hongkong. She left at daylight on the 22nd.

Orders have been received from home that the cruiser *Argonaut* is to refit here instead of proceeding home on the termination of her commission, the three years of which expired in April last.

On the 14th inst. Sir Ernest Satow left Woosung by H.M.S. *Eclipse*, which was to convey him to Weihaiwei and then to Shanhaikwan, whence he was to proceed by train to Peking.

The N.-C. *Daily News* Tientsin correspondent telegraphs under date 16th August:—Ching Kuan, Special Commissioner to Japan in 1898, is expected at Tientsin to carry on his search for Reformers. The educated Chinese here are in a state of alarm, and are anxiously enquiring whether the Consuls here are authorised to protect them.

To-day, the first day of the seventh Chinese moon, is the *fête-day* of Lao Tsze, founder of Taoism. The whole seventh moon is observed by Chinese Taoists and Buddhists as a festival of All Souls, and exhibitions of groups of statuettes, dwarf plants, ancestral tablets, etc., are to be seen, while music and fire-crackers are indulged in.

Saturday was the 54th anniversary of the assassination of Governor Amaral at Macao. From this crime, which was one of a still more audacious and horrible nature than our own recent Gage Street murder, though resembling it in the particular of the Chinese official complicity, was the beginning of Macao's independence from China.

We received the following from the Colonial Secretary's Office on Friday evening:—Referring to Government Notification No. 375 of 15th June, it is hereby notified that telegraphic information has been received from the Government of the Straits Settlements that the Prohibition against Chinese Immigration from Hongkong has been removed.

The Peking correspondent of the N.-C. *Daily News* telegraphed on the 14th August:—The rumour that a convention with reference to Manchuria has been signed between Prince Ching and M. Lessar, the Russian Minister, is prevailing again, but the truth of it is uncertain; but that many despatches have been sent and received lately between the two above-mentioned dignitaries is true.

A correspondent at Shanhaikwan writes to the N.-C. *Daily News* under date the 8th inst.:—There are several men-of-war anchored some three miles from the shore, apparently Italian and Japanese. Tientsin men are already finding a falling-off in the business there, Russians in Manchuria shipping the sable and other skins direct to Russia; and if Russia annexes Mongolia, which is probable, English and German houses in Tientsin will suffer in their skin and wool trade; yet Germany will not join in a protest.

We received on the 17th inst. the following telegram from our Shanghai correspondent:—“Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's steamer *Poyang* is in quarantine at Kiukiang. Captain Phillips, Chief Engineer Campbell, the chief mate, second engineer, and Chinese pilot are all dead of cholera, while two more of the crew are sick.” The *Poyang* is a steamer belonging to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, which runs from Shanghai to Hankow. In the latest Shanghai *Hong List* Captain Vallack is registered as in command of the *Poyang*, and Mr. Murray as chief engineer, so that there have evidently been changes since the beginning of the year.

It is reported from Peking, says the N.-C. *Daily News*, that the Viceroy of the Shen-Kan provinces, Sung Fan, has recently telegraphed to the Grand Council stating that the Tib tan tribes quartered in the so-called Tiao department have started pillaging the country in the vicinity of that region causing considerable trouble to their neighbours. The Viceroy further stated that he had already sent a force of Government troops to overawe the raiders, but that as the Tiao district also closely borders Sungpan in Szechuen province, the Grand Council is requested to instruct the Szechuen authorities to send the Major-General of the Sunpan circuit and his command to join forces with the Shensi troops and so surround the raiders if possible.

A “Strong Foreign Policy League” has been inaugurated in Japan. The *Japan Times* considers the League unnecessary, “when such a policy happens to have the endorsement of practically the whole nation.” In its report of the meeting at which the league was inaugurated, the *Times* says:—“Prince Konoye, Count Okuma, and Count Itagaki, whose absence from the meeting was very much regretted by those present, each sent an address to the gathering. Prince Konoye said in his address that Japan must not hesitate to present a resolute front against Russia if the latter continued to keep hold of Manchuria. Count Okuma compared the patriotic enthusiasm of our people to the fire in a volcano ready to burst forth at any moment, and wondered why our Government should be so timid when it had such powerful support. Count Itagaki saw no reason why Russia, which had advised Japan years ago to give back the Liaotung Peninsula to China, should be allowed to occupy Manchuria.” The *Kobe Chronicle* rebukes the “Jingo manifesto,” and certainly some of the speeches were violent.



## THE PEACE OF EUROPE.

(Daily Press, 20th August.)

Contrasted with the state of affairs in the Far East, the relations of Britain on the continent of Europe may be looked upon for the first time for some years as eminently satisfactory, and reflecting no small amount of credit on her Government. For nearly a century the regal office in Great Britain had sunk to comparative unimportance, and the monarch had come to be looked upon as little more than a counterweight to add stability to the fluctuations to which a popular government is always liable. It was indeed known that her late Majesty did always insist on her constitutional right to be kept informed of everything transacted in her name, and more than once asserted herself when she thought Ministers were taking over much on their own shoulders, but it seldom or never happened that Ministers of their own notion voluntarily applied for advice or inspiration to the Sovereign. So much was this the case that a certain section of politicians were in the habit of saying that, for all really efficient purposes in the way of imparting energy to the actual machine of state, the kingly office was as a mere flywheel, taking up redundant energy at one point to distribute it again when unusual strain came upon it. The last twenty years of the world have been indicative of a gradual return of the age of kingcraft, and it is worthy of note that with the exception of Russia, nominally the only autocratic empire of the lot, the actual guidance of affairs of state has fallen largely into the hands of the nominal chief rulers, who have been kings not only by law, but in a very large and remarkable degree in fact. The old Emperor of Austria, FRANCIS JOSEPH, was for years almost alone in guiding the affairs of the Dual Monarchy through the most severe crisis in its history, but it is to the allied German Empire that we have to turn to see the doctrine of personal government carried to the furthest extreme. Although King HUMBERT in Italy hardly exercised so much personal influence in the management of affairs as did his predecessor, the new king VICTOR EMANUEL III has, following the example of his generation, commenced to make his personal influence felt throughout the kingdom as well as abroad. And not only in the nominal kingdoms, but in the republics is the same element of personal government found to prevail, and here also, as in the former case, to the manifold benefit of the State. It is thus that Presidents LOUBET and ROOSEVELT are strong, not only through the position of the states over which they have been called upon to preside, but through the individual power of the men themselves. Of King EDWARD VII it is almost unnecessary to speak, but here the magnetic attraction of the man has come to the aid of administrative faculties of no mean order, and it is possibly the case that since the accession of the house of Brunswick no sovereign of England has exercised so potent a personal interest in the deliberations of his Cabinet. The effect is very plain, and is to be noticed in the very different construction put upon the actions of England by the continental Powers. A curious but marked instance of this is to be noticed in the recent telegraphic correspondence between King EDWARD, representing the longest abiding of European monarchies, and King PETER of Serbia, newly elected to almost the youngest. Whether King PETER was or was not cognisant of the dark crimes committed in the palace of Belgrade must remain, for the present generation at least,

concealed. He has denied the knowledge, and except that it might have been considered that it was in his interest that they should be committed we have no direct evidence to connect him with a guilty knowledge. It is the misfortune of rulers that they have frequently arrived at their exalted positions by means which in the case of individuals would have entailed prompt and fatal judgment. Nations often against their wishes and convictions have been compelled to coalesce in these acts, in order to avoid the recurrence of still worse; yet, strange as it is, the man whose path to the throne has been marked by the most atrocious of crimes, has in subsequent years frequently handed down his name to posterity as distinguished alike for impartial justice and clemency. It is thus that by the exercise of tact and discretion a situation that might have been turned into an element of danger for the entire of Europe, has been taken advantage of to induce a much more wholesome condition throughout the Balkan Peninsula. Although a general drawing together has for some time seemed possible between France and England, it is undoubtedly the case that the difficulties in bringing it about would have been vastly intensified but for the strongly marked personalities of the two rulers. France and England had for some years been estranged—why it was not easy to divine. The curious fact that, in spite of this apparent estrangement, absolutely nothing had turned up to lead to hostile action on the part of one or the other was an evident indication that the interests of the two peoples was not in essentials hostile; but in family quarrels the most dangerous point is arrived at when both parties begin to discover the absence of any point of difference, and it was at such a moment that King EDWARD paid his round of visits, not omitting to look in upon President LOUBET. To this pleasant outlook there is but one exception, and that curiously enough is the one case where the sovereign, absolute in theory, is to all intents little more than a puppet in the hands of a hated bureaucracy. There the whole country is furrowed with discontent, ready at any moment to break out in excesses, of which the recent massacres at Kishineff are but an indication of what is likely to be the rule in the near future; and this bureaucracy, conscious of the evil that it has wrought, is, in trying to prolong its miserable existence, well content by its aimless and vaulting ambition to remain a standing menace to the civilised world. It is in strange contrast to this eminently satisfactory position in Europe that we witness the still too evident divergence in Asia. The situation is not creditable to any of the Powers, least of all to Russia, which by unblushing falsehood and dishonour has been seeking to take advantage of every rift in the counsels of her neighbours. Already she has taxed the forbearance of the other great Powers to the utmost, and it would seem from time to time that the inevitable had come. We are not advocates for peace at any price, ever that of dishonour, and we would like to see the admirable concert which prevails in Europe applied to a similar useful purpose in the Far East.

On the night of the 4th inst a public meeting for the propagation of Socialism was held in the town of Nakatsu, of Japan. Some references of one of the speakers were considered by the authorities to be detrimental to the public peace, and the meeting was peremptorily ordered to disperse.

## THE PEKING OFFICIAL MURDER.

(Daily Press, 22nd August.)

We reproduced yesterday from the N.-C. Daily News an account, from a Peking correspondent, of the most recent official murder in that city. The victim was the SHEN CHIN or SHEN KE-WEI, of whose death we wrote lately. He had acted as correspondent in the Chinese capital for some of the Japanese papers, was a reformer, and belonged to the *literati* class. It seems he was mixed up with the Hankow movement in 1900, for which a number of his fellow-countrymen lost their lives, and he was at one time a secretary in the Viceregal Yamen at Wuchang. He escaped at the time, probably to Japan, but returned to Peking as a newspaper correspondent, hoping that matters had blown over, and that he would not be recognised or remembered. But some official or other became aware of his identity, and he was arrested by a secret Decree and handed over to the Board of Punishments for trial. This took place on the 29th July before a special Commission nominated by the Empress Dowager. He was simply interrogated, and, as he confessed his offence freely, he was spared being put to the torture. This did not, however, in the end avail him much. The Court reported the result of the trial to the Throne, and, after a brief delay, a Decree was issued ordering that the prisoner should be beaten to death in prison. This may not sound such a very terrible sentence, but, as the correspondent of our contemporary points out, it is the most cruel and barbarous that could be passed. It finds no existence in the Code, and is reserved for the eunuchs and slaves of the Palace. It is stated that the execution was commenced at four o'clock in the afternoon, and for two hours the body of the unfortunate man was subjected to a rain of blows from the blunt bamboo, until his flesh hung in shreds; but life still remained in the battered frame, and he implored the executioners to put an end to his prolonged agonies. Eventually they seem to have put him out of his misery, but not before the shades of evening were closing in.

Such are the particulars given of this disgraceful occurrence, and the narrator does not hesitate to charge the Empress Dowager with being directly the author of the sentence. It rested with the Throne, and as the Emperor is only a figure-head it cannot be doubted that the Empress Dowager passed sentence on the wretched SHEN. It is obvious therefore that, as our Shanghai contemporary puts it, even as the leopard cannot change his spots, so the Empress has not changed the cruel and merciless nature which prompted her to execute the six martyrs without trial in 1898, to join in the conspiracy to exterminate all the foreigners in Peking, and to decapitate the faithful Ministers in 1900. Given another opportunity, we believe this ruthless old woman would repent without remorse all the crimes that disgraced the close of the nineteenth century in China, and that she is now, and has been ever since her return from Hsiao-fu, only acting a part. Surely it is time that the attempt to bolster up such an administration should be finally abandoned! It would be bad enough to have to prop up a dynasty of which the Emperor KWANG HSU is the effete representative. But to support a Government of which this bloodthirsty and vengeful woman is the guiding spirit, seems totally out of keeping with modern civilisation and the spirit of the age. Nor does it appear to have had any of the good



effects hoped for, beyond perhaps restoring some sort of order in the country. It has not braced up the officials to undertake the reforms needed to save the country; it has not endowed them with the resolution to so administer the affairs of the Empire as to restore its credit and develop its resources; nor has it stiffened the Government to resist the pressure of ambitious neighbours scheming for their own aggrandisement. The so-called Chinese Government has again been tried in the balance and found woefully wanting. By its weakness it is not only preparing the way for its own speedy dissolution, but unhappily while so doing it is imperilling the peace of the world. Russia is openly absorbing Manchuria, the ancient seat of the present Chinese dynasty, and is setting an example that sooner or later will be followed by other Powers. The Peking Government is both too weak and too indifferent to resist; it is more likely to become the creature of Russia than to oppose an effective resistance to her advance. What then is to be done? Is it not time the Treaty Powers took counsel and reviewed the situation? They should set aside mutual jealousies and endeavour to come to some arrangement whereby the partitionment of this ancient empire may be averted and its commercial and industrial progress assured.

#### NEW RUSSIAN APPOINTMENT.

(Daily Press, 17th August.)

REUTER'S telegram of the 13th instant states that the Tsar of Russia has issued an ukase appointing Admiral ALEXIEFF Viceroy of the Far East with supreme power, responsible only to a special Council at St. Petersburg, the Viceroyalty comprising the Amur and Kwantung territories. This ukase appears to be the first official recognition by Russia of the practical annexation of Manchuria, for though the Kwantung territory only comprises the extreme south of Manchuria it is obvious that Russia is not going to treat the Liaotung peninsula as an isolated dependency unconnected by land with her North-eastern Asiatic possessions. Of course it is still possible for Russia to put forward the old diplomatic evasions. A fortnight ago the *Paris Figaro* quoted M. KUROPAKIN, the Russian Minister for War, who had just returned to St. Petersburg, as having declared that Russia is willing to evacuate Manchuria excepting the zone in proximity to the railway. Naturally, Kwantung as a whole is regarded as "in proximity to the railway." But what the other Powers would like to know is how much of Manchuria is not in proximity to the railway, either the lines already built or branches projected and to be built in the future. It is to be noted that in spite of the Russian Minister's statement quoted by the *Figaro* the *Cologne Gazette* of about the same date published a St. Petersburg telegram which asserts that the Russian Government is resolved to prohibit the residence of foreigners in Manchuria during the ensuing six years, pending the restoration of order. That "restoration of order" is a phrase which is becoming very wearisome. Russia does not permit China to attempt to restore order, nor does she attempt it herself except to the extent of keeping the territory in proximity to the line quiet. There does not, therefore, seem any particular reason for imagining that restoration of order will take six years rather than one year or twenty. The phrase is merely a weapon in the hands of Russia's unscrupulous diplo-

matists. Admiral ALEXIEFF may be trusted to make full use of it. As a result of his appointment we may expect to see more unwarrantable aggressions in the Far East coupled with the issue of bland and worthless assurances from St. Petersburg. Really it is high time that the Powers ceased to treat the St. Petersburg Government as a civilised authority with an elementary notion of honour or truth. The Tsar himself is no doubt an estimable man, but his word, as it proceeds through the mouths of his ministers, cannot be reckoned as good as that of the Sultan of Turkey or any of the other Oriental despots whom it is usual to decry. It might have been thought that after so many years of experience of Russian ways European nations would have learnt to judge Russia by her acts alone. Particularly with reference to Chinese affairs has her treachery been exhibited. Yet we see assurances about the coming evacuation of Manchuria being listened to with polite attention and apparent credulity. The question which is of most interest just now is whether Sir ERNEST SATOW'S return to Peking will be coincident with a firmer British attitude toward China, for of course diplomatically it is still to China that we must apply about the opening of ports and the rights of traders and travellers. Useful as no doubt were Sir ERNEST SATOW'S visits to Simla and Rangoon, we cannot help regretting that his return to his post had to be delayed for them. Never was the presence of a strong British Minister, trusted by his Government and his fellow countrymen in the East, so much required at Peking as it is now and in fact has been for months past. It must not of course be expected that all will become smooth as soon as Sir ERNEST is back in Peking; but at least we have the right to expect that Great Britain will take up an attitude toward affairs in North China which will compel the attention of the shifty intriguers who have so far had things all their own way.

#### RUSSIA'S POSITION IN THE NORTH.

(Daily Press, 18th August.)

The *North-China Daily News* states upon the authority of a "well-informed correspondent in the North" that there is now no immediate prospect of the threatened war between Russia and Japan, but that there is reason to think that the Russian military authorities in Manchuria are anxious to force a war on Japan in the autumn; but, it is added, it is a matter for the politicians to decide whether they will be allowed to do so or not. This, of course, has been the question all along. Russia's military men have been, in the popular phrase, "spoiling for a fight," but it has not so far suited the book of the diplomatists to give way to them, although military preparations have been proceeding apace. The correspondent of our Shanghai contemporary says that Russia is still strengthening her position in Manchuria and towards the Yalu by collecting stores at Liaoyang and Fenghuangcheng, improving the roads, etc. There was only a small garrison at Antunghsien, he says, according to last reports, and a small party of reservists in plain clothes, but with their rifles, at Yong-Ampho. With regard to Antunghsien, the same authority states that a great mistake has been made in asking for Tatungkou as a new treaty-port on the Manchurian side of the Yalu river. The place that should be chosen is Antunghsien, which is a fine accessible town, with a bank that could be easily

banded, and with twenty feet of water at low tide, while Tatungkou is only approachable by a narrow winding creek, dry at low water. The Russians have recognised the strategic importance of Antunghsien, for they are contemplating a railway line thither to Liaoyang via Fenghuangcheng. As usual, their intelligence department has served them well.

#### A PETTY VIEW OF THE "SUPAO" CASE.

(Daily Press, 18th August.)

It might naturally have been thought that the decision come to in the matter of the *Supao* affair at Shanghai would give satisfaction among the European residents in that port. There was a danger that six Chinese reformers, trusting in the protection afforded by residence in an European settlement, might be handed over to the Chinese authorities to be summarily decapitated according to Imperial edict, perhaps after the horrible preliminaries which occurred in the case of SHEN KE-WEI at Peking. This danger has been averted, thanks to the action of the British Government, on this occasion fortunately well posted by its advisers in China. It might have been expected, we say, that the European residents in Shanghai would feel satisfaction. But what do we find? The French paper in Shanghai, *L'Echo de Chine*, in its issue of the 9th instant came out with a leading article, signed by the Editor, in which it angrily resented the action of the British Government. The opening words of this effusion were to the following effect:—"Mr. BALFOUR has been good enough to speak. In answer to a question put by Mr. H. NORMAN, he has declared in the House of Commons that 'Sir ERNEST SATOW has received telegraphic instructions not to surrender the *Supao* prisoners. We would ask one simple question: what has that got to do with us? Is Mr. BALFOUR in charge of the policing of the International concession of 'Shanghai?' The word 'international' is printed by our contemporary in large capitals. *L'Echo de Chine* goes on to say that the British Government's conduct provokes the other foreign Powers to show that they are in Shanghai for other purposes than supporting British policy. After an attack on Mr. MANSFIELD for authorising the *China Gazette* to reproduce his views on the case of the *Supao* prisoners, the French journal proceeds to state that it is well known that in Hongkong a welcome is extended to those who conspire against the re-establishment of peace in South China and strive to upset the Manchu dynasty—an accusation which will be heard with no little surprise down here, where we are still wondering whether any penalty at all will attach to the promoters of the atrocious murder in Gage Street. Finally our contemporary expresses its great astonishment at the intervention of Mr. BALFOUR in a question where he has not the sole right to speak. Such intervention, declares the *Echo*, is particularly untimely, since it is not at the moment when the solution of a difficult question (that of the *Supao* prisoners) demands the co-operation of all well-disposed people that another very grave question ought to be raised, namely, that of the international character of the foreign concessions at Shanghai, on which question, concludes the writer, "compromise is impossible. We can only express our surprise that an experienced man like Mr. LEMERRE, the Editor of *L'Echo de Chine*, can take up such a position, which is in



opposition to the dictates of humanity and bears a singular blindness to facts. The *North-China Daily News* states the case very fairly when it says:—"The pre-dominant position of Great Britain in Shanghai is a fact which cannot be whittled away by tumid and ill-tempered leading articles. If Great Britain says that the *Supao* prisoners shall not be given up, they will not be given up, and as nobody wants them to be given up, it is a good thing that Great Britain has put her foot down." It was stated recently that the two Powers who expressed willingness to hand over the *Supao* prisoners to the Chinese authorities were Russia and France. Easily credible in the case of Russia, the charge was not believed against France. Yet the attitude of *L'Echo de Chine* might almost persuade us to give credence to the report. We have seldom seen lately so miserable an example of petty jealousy as that exhibited by our French contemporary in Shanghai.

### MALARIA IN HONGKONG AND ELSEWHERE.

(Daily Press, 19th August)

The town of Ismailia, familiar to all who have travelled through the Suez Canal, has hitherto borne a most unenviable reputation as a home of mosquitoes, and more particularly as a hotbed of the *Anopheles* mosquito and therefore of malarial fever. In consequence it was determined by the Suez Canal Company to take the advice of Major Sir RONALD ROSS, the great malarial expert. In September last he made certain recommendations, and now the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine has received from the Company a report on the result of these recommendations. A complete success over the mosquito seems to have been won. Important drainage works have been undertaken, including the filling up of puddles, and a service has been created specially charged with the duty of pouring oil on the pools and disused wells, doing away with marshes and puddles existing in and near the residential quarters of the town. Fever cases have, in consequence, decreased in a most marked manner. The campaign was begun at a season of the year particularly favourable to the *Anopheles*, and it has not therefore been possible to extirpate the pest entirely. Nevertheless both the disease and its carrier are now almost extinct in Ismailia, and the few specimens of *Anopheles* recently captured, it is said, have not been infected with the parasite which is the cause of malaria. It is hoped, apparently with reason, that a complete stamping out of the fever is within reach, just as in Havana yellow fever has been banished for over two years by the extermination of another kind of mosquito. It is worthy of note, too, in the case of Ismailia that, thanks to systematic oiling of pools and to the unceasing watch kept over all likely places where larvæ can be hatched, the ordinary mosquitoes of the genus *Culex* and *Stegomyia* have been annihilated almost absolutely, and even in the worst period of the hot season it has been found possible to dispense with the use of mosquito-nets. In view of the example of Ismailia, a place most notorious in the past for malaria, it seems worthy of consideration in Hongkong, particularly among our sanitary authorities, whether a similarly systematic campaign might not be more economical than the half-measures which we have at present adopted against the mosquito. It cannot be claimed that Hongkong labours under worse defects than did Ismailia, as far as breeding-grounds for mosquitoes is

concerned. Yet the terrible mortality from malaria continues practically unchecked. Is it really impossible for us to do what others have done and by one sufficiently prolonged campaign exterminate a pest which does as much as any other disease to render the conditions of life in this Colony unpleasant and dangerous? We cannot believe this. It is quite true that such a campaign must be expensive, and that we have been for some years engaged in a very expensive struggle against plague. Yet it may well be asked what advantage it is to us to go on building up a large surplus from revenue if the Colony is to continue undesirable as a dwelling-place, while other regions, equally afflicted in the past, have been able to get rid of the scourge which still afflicts us so sorely.

(Daily Press, 21st August.)

Our senior evening contemporary, with more strength of language than courtesy, suggests that our remarks in our issue of Wednesday on malaria in Hongkong were due to ignorance, and, appearing for the occasion in the unusual position for it of advocate of the Government, states its opinion that "the improvement in Hongkong" in the matter of malaria "compares favourably with that effected at Ismailia and elsewhere." By the simple controversial device of omitting a word from one of the statements contained in our remarks, the *China Mail* writer makes an ingenious but dishonest hit. We stated that the terrible mortality from malaria "continues practically unchecked." Our contemporary omits the words "practically," and charges us with "exaggeration, if not absolute ignorance." What then are the facts? If we take this year's official mortality returns, as far as they have gone, we find the following deaths from malaria recorded so far this year:—January, 28; February, 18; March, 15; April, 23; May, 18; June, 15. Of these one death occurred in the Army and three among European and foreign civilians. In 1902 the figures for the corresponding months were:—January, 30; February, 20; March, 20; April, 19; May, 34; June, 32. There were two cases in the Army and six among European and foreign civilians. Thus it will be seen that in the half of the year when malaria is less prevalent, there have been in 1903 117 deaths as against 155 in 1902—a not sensational decrease of 38 cases. In addition to this we have to consider the matter of infant mortality among the Chinese, on which a commission is at this moment sitting; for we are betraying no confidence in stating that among the principal causes for the enormous death-rate among Chinese children has been found to be the prevalence of malarial fever. These deaths do not appear among the classified returns, for the obvious reason that there is no opportunity in the majority of cases of classifying them. We think therefore that we are amply justified in calling attention to the undue continuance of the ravages of malaria in Hongkong and in asking for a more vigorous campaign. As for the comparison of Hongkong with "Ismailia and elsewhere," vague as the latter word is, the statement is still sufficiently absurd. Writing to the Colonial Office in October, 1902, Sir WILLIAM MACGREGOR says that a fair average of the cases of malaria that presented themselves in the Suez Canal Company's service alone at Ismailia would be about 165 a month. Now, as has been seen, we are told that the disease and its carrier are both alike almost extinct in Ismailia. We have not by us at the moment the record of the results of Major Sir RONALD ROSS's

campaign on the West Coast of Africa, but those who have read it must recollect that the results obtained were startling. It is ridiculous to compare the measure of success obtained in Hongkong with such examples of scientific warfare against the mosquito. We do not wish to depreciate the efforts of the Hongkong sanitary authorities, but it is obvious that they have a lot to do to bring themselves on a level with those who have struggled with success in Ismailia and on the West Coast of Africa.

### "EMPRESS OF INDIA" IN COLLISION.

FEARED LOSS OF LIFE.

On the arrival of the Canadian Pacific mail steamer *Empress of India* on the 18th inst. a report was circulated that she had run into and sunk the Chinese revenue cruiser *Wong Tai* near Swatow. Enquiry was made at the offices of the Company, where the following information was supplied. The *Empress of India* was proceeding on the passage from Shanghai to this port and between 11 and 12 p.m. on the 17th inst., near Breaker Point, was overtaken by the Chinese cruiser *Wong Tai*. When about to pass the mail boat, the cruiser star-boarded and collided with the *Empress* so suddenly that it was impossible for the latter vessel to get out of the way in time. The *Wong Tai* struck her a glancing blow near the fore-end of the promenade deck, about three-quarters the length of the ship. The cruiser slid along the liner's side apparently without sustaining any injury except the loss of her boats and projecting gear, which were carried away. On getting clear, however, she made signals of distress, and boats were at once lowered from the *Empress of India* and sent to her assistance. When these got alongside it was seen that the cruiser was in a sinking condition. Very reluctantly the crew allowed themselves to be taken into the boats, but the captain, a Chinaman—the entire crew were Chinese—and the navigating and gunnery lieutenants positively refused to leave the ship, and were left standing on the bridge. The cruiser settled down by the stern, and at 1.27 a.m. sank, being then from Breaker's Point S. 82 E. 15 miles. Early in the same morning the crew of the *Wong Tai*, who were brought into Hongkong by the *Empress*, were mustered, when 13 men out of a total of 184 were found to be missing. As the night was fine, and there were several junks in the vicinity, it is reasonable to suppose that most if not all of these were saved. Fears, however, are entertained for the life of the cruiser's captain, whose two companions on the bridge, the navigating lieutenant and the gunnery lieutenant, were picked up afterwards.

NARRATIVE OF A PASSENGER.

A passenger by the *Empress of India*, a Calcutta gentleman, was able to supply a representative of the *Daily Press* on the 19th inst. with an accurate account of the collision on the 17th inst. between the C. P. R. steamer *Empress of India* and the Chinese cruiser *Wong Tai*. He was on deck enjoying the cool air, and stood underneath the bridge on the starboard side. The hour was 11.50 p.m. and the night beautifully fine; the ship's speed was about fifteen knots. On the starboard side, apparently about four hundred yards away, were the lights of what seemed to be a steamer, which the *Empress* was gradually overtaking. The steamer looked to be steering a course parallel to that of the mail boat, but when her stern was in a cross line with the *Empress's* bows she appeared to alter her course to cross the other vessel's bows. The movement was inexplicable to our informant, who distinctly remembers saying to himself: "She can't go before us, and she can't go behind us; therefore, what is she going to do?" The answer came in a startling manner. The steamer, or cruiser, drew nearer and nearer, and the officer on the bridge of the passenger ship called out: "Port your helm there." Nearer still drew the two vessels, however, and then the cruiser struck the



*Empress* about twenty feet away from where our informant was standing.

Confusion for a moment amongst the passengers on the liner was one natural outcome of the collision, but they were quickly reassured that no danger was imminent, and tranquillity was restored. The cruiser scraped and slid all the way along the steamer's side, and then managed to get clear. At first sight she appeared to have suffered no material damage beyond the loss of some projecting gear, but presently she ran up distress signals. The *Empress* had by this time been stopped, but the boats were all the time drifting farther apart, so that it was impossible to tell what was happening on board the *Wong Tai*; as far as our informant could tell, however, there was no confusion—no noise of any sort that might be expected from men who knew they stood in danger of losing their lives. The impression of those on the *Empress* seemed to be that there was not much wrong with the cruiser, and only one boat was launched to go to her assistance. Then it was seen that the *Wong Tai* was settling down by the stern, and the order was given to launch all the *Empress's* boats. This order was carried out without the slightest display of confusion, the crew of the mail steamer carrying themselves as though the saving of life from a sinking steamer was an every-day occurrence with them.

Difficulty was experienced in getting the cruiser's officers off, for they were most reluctant to leave the stricken ship, which was rapidly filling and settling down by the stern. The captain, the navigating lieutenant, and the gunnery lieutenant refused to stir from the bridge, and went down with the cruiser; the two latter were, however, saved. Two junks were in the vicinity, and they were standing by when the cruiser, throwing her ram in the air, went down like a log. It is supposed that she altered her course to get out of the way of a junk, but the passenger who supplied us with the above details saw no junks except the two mentioned, and they were not in the way.

The *Wong Tai*, we understand, lies in sixteen fathoms of water; the tops of her masts can be seen at low tide. On the 19th inst. the cargo of the *Empress of India*, which appears to have suffered no damage by the collision save the starting of one or two plates and the scraping of her paint for a considerable length on the starboard side, was removed by the Godown Company; the vessel will probably go into dock to have the necessary repairs attended to and to be surveyed.

### THE BARBAROUS OFFICIAL-MURDER AT PEKING.

Peking, 3rd August.

A tragedy has just been enacted in Peking which for sheer cold-blooded barbarity must be almost unsurpassed in the annals of criminal justice. Your readers are aware no doubt that a Mr. Shen Chin who has been for some time a reporter here for some of the Japanese papers, was arrested on a charge of complicity in the abortive plot at Hankow of some three years ago and has been done to death; but the manner of his death—carried out by direct order of the Empress Dowager—is such an outrage on all feelings of humanity that it seems desirable at the present moment that the truth should be known. The writer has been at some pains to get at the facts, and the following is, to the best of his information, correct.

#### THE VICTIM'S ANTECEDENTS.

The unfortunate Shen was a scholar and gentleman, and mixed freely with the better classes of Peking, among whom he had numerous friends. It seems possible enough that he was mixed up with the Hankow affair of 1900, in which a dozen or so of his countrymen lost their heads; he having, indeed, it is said, been a Secretary in the Viceroy's yamen at Wuchang. He escaped, however, to Japan, it is supposed, and having made there some friends he returned to Peking about a year ago as a newspaper reporter, and there is no suggestion that since his return he has in any way interfered in politics. The worst that can be said against him is that he was very pro-Japanese and consequently anti-Russian, and his telegrams to the Japanese papers were not always well-founded. He himself ascribes his calamity to

the fact of his having stated in a Japanese paper that China had consented to two of the clauses in the Russian demands which he calls the secret Treaty, but in this he was mistaken apparently, though it is not impossible there was Russian influence at work.

#### THE TRIAL.

Unhappily for him, however, some petty officials had got hold of the secret of his identity and carried the information direct to the Palace. Thereupon a secret Decree was issued for his arrest and consignment to the Board of Punishments. We pass over the irregularity of his arrest, as also of his treatment in prison up to his trial and condemnation, as these are common incidents of political offences in China. The trial took place on the 29th of last month before a special Commission nominated by the Empress Dowager, and consisted, not in calling evidence or even stating by whom or of what he was accused, but Chinese-like of simple interrogation of the prisoner, with the instruments of torture ready to quicken his memory. The unhappy man seems to have made up his mind to his fate from the first, as he confessed, so it is said, freely, and no torture had to be applied. The usual course of Chinese justice in such a case is that the Judges composing the Court give no verdict and pass no sentence, but simply report to the Throne. So far there was nothing unusual—nothing that is not passing every day in China. His friends fully expected that a Decree would appear next day for his execution; though some faint hopes were entertained, that as the ordinary law prescribes that no execution shall take place during the great heat, the execution might be postponed till the autumn and thus give some faint chance of a reprieve.

#### THE DEATH OF SLAVES.

Now comes the horrible part of the story, it must be told. The Judges having done their part by reporting adversely, it may be presumed, to the prisoner, it was then for the Throne, that is the Empress Dowager, to prescribe the punishment. The Decree was issued, not that the man should be executed, not even that he should die by the *ling-chih*, but that he should be beaten to death in prison. Strange it is that creatures can be found to carry out such a sentence, but there seems no lack of them in the Board of Punishments, for no sooner was the Decree received than they proceeded to carry it out. The gruesome work began at 4 o'clock, and for two mortal hours they rained blows with blunt bamboos on the limbs and back of the wretched prisoner until the flesh was hanging in shreds and tatters, and still the man would not die. In his agony he implored them in mercy to put an end to it by strangulation, and finally something of the kind had to be resorted to. The shades of evening were falling before the mangled body had ceased to quiver.

Such is the latest phase of Chinese civilisation as exemplified by the amiable and well-meaning lady who now rules the destinies of the Empire. It is beyond all doubt that the Decree came straight from her hand, for it is such a monstrous perversion of even Chinese justice that only she whose word is law would have dared to do it. There is no such punishment prescribed in the Codes, even for high treason. It is only for the eunuchs and slaves of the Palace—unfortunates who have no rights—that the punishment of beating to death is reserved. The pity of it is there should be found instruments willing to carry out such brutal orders. If the warden of the prison had replied that he was there to carry out the law, not to commit judicial murder, thought it have cost him his head, there would have been a ray of hope for China. It might have marked a new era, the dawn of a fight for civil freedom.—N.-C. D. N.

According to the *China Times* of the 3rd inst., Shen Ke-wei, the reformer who was executed at Peking on the 31st ult., was beaten to death by the Empress Dowager's special orders. He was beaten with bamboos for two hours continuously, until in many places his bones were exposed, by eight executioners, and as he was still alive, he was then "mercifully strangled." In reference to his execution the *China Times* says.—From a hurried interview we had last evening with a personal friend of Mr. Shen, we gathered a few interesting facts as to the personality of this remarkable correspondent. Shen Chien or Shen Yushi was a man to be

particularly noticed by any one who came in contact with him, on account of his striking appearance. He was about 31 years of age and wore a black moustache. In talking he was extremely animated, and his great subject of conversation was the attitude and doings of the officials, of whom he seemed to know their slightest movements and intentions. Through the medium of the Press he exposed many officials and their doings, especially after the Boxer outbreak, when he unhesitatingly pointed out those who had been in favour of that movement. The official class naturally feared and hated him, and we can only suppose that his latest coup in the exposure of China's secret agreement clauses with Russia has resulted in his determined doing to death by the Government at Peking. Mr. Shen Chien had a great circle of friends, especially those connected with the native Press, and his death will be deeply felt by all. The outrage has created an intense feeling among foreigners in Peking and has evoked a strong feeling of opposition against the prisoners in the *Supao* case being handed over to the Chinese Government.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* says that nothing incriminating was found in the search at Peking of the premises of Mr. Shen.

### THE CASE OF INSPECTOR MCEWEN.

Acting on behalf of Inspector R. G. McEwen, Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors, applied to the Government to refund their client's expenses in defending himself against the charges recently brought against him, and have received a communication from the Hon. F. H. May, Colonial Secretary, to the effect that H.E. the Governor cannot see his way to grant the application. This means that Inspector McEwen will have to meet the expenses of his trial himself as best he can. He is not a rich man by any manner of means, and the paying of such heavy legal costs as he incurred in defending himself against the charges of accepting bribes from the poultry guilds of the Central and Western Markets—charges that the special jury which tried him showed by their unanimous verdict for the prisoner to be false—will make a serious call on his resources. Without commenting in any way on the attitude the Government has adopted in the matter, it surely cannot be argued that Inspector McEwen is being treated fairly. Any Government servant, of course, is liable to be charged at any time with the offences alleged against Inspector McEwen, but is there to be no recompense for the accused man when it has been proved in a court of law that he is innocent? Does it mean that, when a man enters the service of the Government of this Colony, he must be prepared at any moment to expend perhaps the savings of years in refuting accusations that are the outcome simply of animosity on the part, say, of Chinese with whom his work brings him into contact? The result of the case against Inspector McEwen, although the verdict was altogether in his favour, is a triumph for the poultry guilds and those behind the poultry guilds, for not only have they achieved their purpose and had him removed from the markets, but they have seriously affected him in pocket. It was shown at the trial that Inspector McEwen carried out the duties of his office rigorously and impartially, and that the condition of the markets was never so clean as when in his care. That surely ought to satisfy the Government, if the verdict of the jury is alone not sufficient to do it, that he is a good, trustworthy servant and worthy of every encouragement as such. Inspector McEwen is not the only man whose interests are at stake; there are other civil servants in the Colony who are concerned and who would like to feel that they cannot be made the plaything of spite without some hope of getting their own back. Inspector McEwen did his duty, and if one's duty is to have nothing but the possibility of social and financial ruin for its reward, then the lot of civil servants in this Colony of the class of Inspector McEwen is not a happy one.

The last of the four escaped convicts was captured at Shanghai on the 11th inst. He was a mulatto named Ward.



## COURT WITNESSES AND THEIR RECOGNISANCES.

In one of the cases at the Criminal Sessions on the 18th inst. Dr. W. V. M. Koch of the Government Civil Hospital was called to give medical evidence and was not in attendance.

The Attorney-General said that in reply to the summons for Dr. Koch's presence as a witness he had received a curt note from the hospital to the effect that Dr. Koch had given evidence in this case already, that he had gone on a two days' holiday, and would not return to the Colony till Thursday morning. Now, Dr. Koch was perfectly well aware that the prisoner had been committed for trial at these Sessions and he had apparently taken advantage of the rule in force at the Magistracy by which Government officers were apparently exempted from entering into recognisances to appear at the Court which all other witnesses had to enter into. The only way of compelling a witness to attend was to bind him over to do so, and until he made enquiries at the Crown Solicitor he did not suppose for a moment that any exemption was made at the Magistracy in respect of any witness. It was perfectly irregular and should not be persevered in. He was unable to call this witness who treated the deceased in hospital, and he was unable to forfeit his recognisances because he had none. He did not see why Government servants should not give their recognisances to attend.

His Lordship directed Dr. Koch's name to be called three times in Court.

This was done but there was no response.

The Attorney-General said he could hardly ask to have Dr. Koch's deposition read, because he did not think Dr. Koch was absent from the Colony in the meaning of the Ordinance which allowed depositions to be read if the deponent was absent from the Colony. He had gone apparently for a holiday jaunt to Macao.

His Lordship said it was an extremely improper proceeding on Dr. Koch's part.

The Attorney-General remarked that he could do nothing in the matter. He could not even ask his Lordship to fine Dr. Koch, because he had not been subpoenaed and was not under recognisances. He hoped the Magistrates would see in future that all witnesses—for the Crown and for the defence—were bound over to attend under recognisances. How the practice had crept in of exempting anyone it was hard to say.

His Lordship said that everyone should be bound over to attend. Non-attendance of witnesses might lead to frustration of justice. In this case they had sufficient before them to know that the man injured was in hospital for six weeks and therefore must have sustained "grievous bodily harm" as was charged in the indictment, but it was very important that they should know what the actual injury was. In that Court there had always been the greatest courtesy and consideration shown to medical officers. Very often they were called when it was not quite convenient to call them, to suit their convenience, sooner than they would otherwise have been called, and they were very frequently allowed to go as soon as they had given their evidence; and the least that could be done was that proper respect should be shown to the Court by their attendance. They would wait and see what Dr. Koch had to say about it.

The Attorney-General said that for the future, if the Magistrates did not bind over the witnesses he would see that the Crown Solicitor subpoenaed every witness who was not bound over. They could then bring them.

His Lordship—I never gave any instructions not to bind them over.

The Attorney-General added that until he heard that Dr. Koch was not present and intimated that he would call him under his recognisances, he was unaware of the fact that he had not been bound over.

His Lordship, in conclusion, said he would represent the matter to the Government and see whether any instructions had been issued. Probably the idea was that Government officers were always here and would be always available. The case was then proceeded with.

H.M.S. *Argonaut* arrived on the 15th inst. from Weihaiwei, while H.M.S. *Sirius* left on the 16th inst. for a cruise.

## NOTES FROM THE BOTANIC GARDENS.

For a wealth of bloom during the summer months there are no better plants than the *Allamandas*; in fact they may be had in flower up to November. They may be either grown in pots or beds as circumstances permit, but whichever way is adopted they will well repay any attention shown them. At the present time there are several plants in flower in both pots and beds in the Gardens. Nearly all the *Allamandas* have yellow flowers and are natives of tropical South America. There are four species under cultivation in the gardens, viz., *Allamanda Schottii* and *Allamanda Hendersoni* with large yellow flowers, *Allamanda cathartica* with medium-sized flowers, and *Allamanda nerifolia* with small flowers.

Perhaps it may be interesting to note that the plant called by the Chinese "blue grass," and largely used for planting under trees and other shady places, is not a grass at all, but a liliaceous plant known under the name of *Ophiopogon japonicus*. It is of great use for covering bare patches and will thrive just as well in the sun as in the shade. It is a native of North China and Japan, but varieties of it have been found in Kwangtung Province. It is a general rule that in the most northern part of its range a species becomes more leafy but produces fewer or no flowers. This is the case with this species, which is used in London as a foliage plant for edging flower-borders. But it has also the interesting peculiarity that when artificially extended to the south of its range, as in Hongkong, it assumes the same flowerless habit and can be used for the same purposes as in England.

A very pretty orchid is now in flower in the No. 3 house. This is *Platyclinis glumacea*, a native of the Philippines, and is bearing 19 scapes of flowers. The scapes are produced at the apex of the young pseudo-bulbs, and each bears about 70 flowers. The individual flowers are more than 1/2-inch across and are borne distichously on the rachis. They are at first light yellow in colour but afterwards become much darker, and as the scapes are recurved they make a very pretty effect.

The bed of *Amaranthus* mentioned three weeks ago continues to make a good show on the lower terrace. The variety—a better one than has been obtained hitherto from England—was discovered in a Chinese garden last year, and seeds from which the present plants were raised were presented to the Botanic Gardens by the owner.

The rainfall for the month to date has been 7.29 inches.

## THE TYPHOON UP THE COAST.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 8th inst. says:—The typhoon telegraphed as passing up the coast, the centre on Wednesday being South of Formosa and moving W. N. W., must have struck the coast somewhere between Amoy and this port on Thursday morning. Our barometer had been falling for 24 hours but the blow did not commence until 10 a.m. on Thursday and gradually increased in force from N. E. until midnight. Then there was a brief lull, but this was followed by a renewed burst from a new quarter, S. E., and a fall in the barometer from the improved marking of two hours previously, and there was some rain. The wind began to moderate at 7 a.m. and a little after noon it practically dropped. The force of the wind, although strong enough to snap off trees and do damage to houses in exposed positions, was not considered violent, and the barometer did not fall below 29.40, while last week for the typhoon which had passed up north of us, it registered close on 29.30. Of course a complete stop was put to shipping and the departure of all the steamers in port delayed. At Pagoda Anchorage it was, as usual in stormy weather, very rough indeed. Passengers who had left Foochow in the morning and got as far as Pagoda could neither get on board their steamers nor return, and had to run up creeks for protection. Some of the houses at Kuliang and Sharp Peak suffered considerably.

## POLLARD COMEDY COMPANY AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.

The Pollard Comedy Company put on one of their best pieces when they staged *My Soldier Boy* in the Theatre Royal on the 15th inst. Mr. Edward Nable essayed the part of Montague Mendle, a gentleman whose inclinations in the matter of an avocation favour the law, but whose interests make advisable the adoption of the profession that his rich stepfather, Jonas Tottenham, has chosen for him—that of a soldier. Mr. Nable's study of the part was a clever one, and made the solicitor-soldier a character that unfailingly delighted the audience. The rôle of the stepfather had excellent treatment from Mr. Harold Carr. Mr. Wentworth Watson had good scope as Capt. Cecil Cullendar. Mr. Alfred Tullett, Mr. Percy Hadyn, and Mr. Merry Lynch, as colonel, lieutenant, and private, respectively, of the 12th Hussars, made the most of their opportunities. Amongst the ladies of the Company, Miss Ada Lawrence in the character of Lydia (Mendle's wife) proved herself an actress as capable as she is charming. The remaining ladies of the company had lighter work to do, but they placed themselves beyond reproach by their contribution to the success of the whole cast. Miss Blanche Clements made a dignified Mrs. Morrison, Miss Grace Gale an attractive Miss Morrison, and Miss Eva McDonald a stylish servant of the accepted stage type. Miss Millie Ascoli and Miss Marjorie Tempest introduced agreeable variety in the form of a dance by the former and a song by the latter. The band of the Derbyshire Regiment played selections during the usual intervals.

On Monday and Tuesday *My Friend from India* was the attraction, on Wednesday and Thursday a version of *Charley's Aunt*, and on Friday and Saturday, the closing nights, *Turned Up*.

## THE NEW TERRITORY IN 1902.

## H. E. THE GOVERNOR'S DESPATCH.

The following despatch by H. E. the Governor forwarding to the Secretary of State for the Colonies the annual report on the New Territory for 1902 (which we reproduced last Monday) is published in the *Gazette* :—

Government House,  
Hongkong, 21st May, 1903.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward for your information a report on the New Territory, for the year 1902.

2. The reports forwarded with my previous despatches mentioned in the margin will have shown the steps taken from the hoisting of the British flag at Taipo on the 16th April, 1899. It will be remembered that on the taking over of the New Territory we found a population roused to a spirit of active antagonism by lying reports carefully disseminated apparently with the concurrence of the Chinese authorities. The attacks made upon our troops were easily defeated, and active hostilities ceased after two engagements, to be succeeded by a period of distrust, happily not of long duration.

3. The district of San On, North of Kowloon Peninsula, leased to Great Britain under the Convention of 1898, has not enjoyed a good reputation. Armed robbery on shore and piracy in the surrounding waters were too common to excite comment locally, powerful clans levied tribute from outlying cultivators, and settled their differences with rival clans by a ready appeal to force without the intervention of any Chinese Official. Might was right, and during the journey through the district of Mr. Lockhart, then Colonial Secretary, after the suppression of the outbreak, the small villages expressed a hope that they would be protected against the bullying to which they were subjected by the larger villages.

4. The first thing to be done was to ensure peace and to generate as far as possible among the inhabitants a feeling of personal security. Military posts were established on the frontier and commanding positions, and Military and Police co-operated in a system of patrols. The location of permanent Police Stations was determined, each Station being connected with Hongkong by telephone, and the division of New Territory into districts undertaken. The Territory was divided into eight districts, which were subdivided into forty-seven sub-districts,



the village elders, who were the natural leaders of the people, being appointed district elders with judicial power to deal with petty cases in their several districts.

5. At the same time Mr. Lockhart was given a general controlling power over these district courts with co-ordinate jurisdiction. I was under the impression that these powers would have been appreciated by the elders and that the Courts would have been resorted to; but as a matter of fact the elders displayed no anxiety to take the duties upon themselves, and from the beginning the community showed perfect confidence in Mr. Lockhart, and subsequently in Mr. Hallifax, who is now acting as Police Magistrate in the New Territory, but whose practical work is more often that of an Arbitrator, whose decision is accepted without demur.

6. Taipohu, a small market town at the head of Tolo harbour in Mirs Bay, was selected as the most suitable position for headquarters, situated as it is in almost the centre of the Territory, and this position has now been connected with Kowloon Peninsula by an excellent road, with easy gradients, 18 miles in length, upon the construction of which \$225,133 have been expended. This road obviates the necessity of communicating with Taipohu by sea, a sometimes rough and dangerous passage. I am considering the possibility of arranging for the further extension of roads in the New Territory by local co-operation and without expense to the general revenue.

7. Having established Police Stations, and arranged for the patrol of the territorial waters by Police launches to check armed robberies ashore and afloat, the question of Crown Rents and Taxes had next to be considered. The district is a poor one, and almost entirely dependent upon agriculture and fishing, and, north of the range of Kowloon Hills, the main source of revenue must for the present be the Crown Rent upon land. This necessitated a survey, and demarcation of the holdings, for which purpose a staff of Surveyors and Demarcators were obtained from India. At the same time a Land Court was established to deal with all claims and grant leases to those who could prove title by deeds, or, in the absence of adverse claim, by occupation. To understand the difficulties of the demarcators it must be remembered that much of the cultivation is on hilly ground, the small rice-plots, which must be perfectly flat to admit of periodical flooding when the rice is sown, being terraced in patches, some of which are but a few square yards in area. Up to the 31st March the total number of such farms demarcated was 223,975, while the total number of holdings for which claims have been presented to the Land Court was 219,517. In this Land Court I determined that Solicitors and Barristers should not have a right to appear without the special permission of the Court, as the claims were for small amounts and I felt that substantial justice would be done at the smallest cost to the claimants. In the performance of this duty, Mr. Gompertz, Assistant Colonial Secretary, who has from the beginning been a Member of the Land Court, has done excellent work. His report, given in Appendix No. 2 forwarded with the report on the Territory for 1900, shows some of the difficulties that presented themselves in the settlement of these claims, and the attached map of a portion of the map of claims for the land and village of Samshui Po, in the Kowloon Peninsula, now before the Land Court, will further show how these claims overlap in apparently inextricable confusion. Here the assistance of Counsel has been permitted as the claims represent very large sums, the value of land south of the Kowloon range having enormously increased since the taking over of the Territory. An exemplification of this is given in the case of a portion of the shore of Devil's Peak Peninsula, west of Lyeemun Pass. The claimant obtained about eleven years ago a right to about 127 acres for the purpose of establishing fishing-ponds. The consideration was five dollars per annum. Having paid one or two years' rent he was five years in arrears when the first whisper was known that the land would probably be ceded to Great Britain, upon which rumour he paid the arrears, and in due course laid his claim before the Land Court, which confirmed his grant. The total amount paid by him was

about thirty dollars. As soon as his claim was confirmed he sold it to a local company for fifty thousand dollars, as the bay, a portion of which is included in the claim, is suitable for the construction of a dock. I hope that the labours of the Land Court may be concluded by the end of this year, when Mr. Gompertz will revert to his substantive appointment of Assistant Colonial Secretary.

8. The Revenue collected from the Territory during the year was \$45,334.03. I question whether the revenue to be derived from Crown Rent at the rate fixed at present will exceed \$60,000, so far as the New Territory is concerned, outside the portion between the Kowloon range of hills and the Harbour; but for this portion I look forward to a steady development as soon as the claims to the land have been settled. As will be seen in reference to Appendix No. 4 p. 19 of the report forwarded with my despatch No. 61 of 19th February, 1900, the right to alter the amount of Crown Rent there laid down for the three classes of cultivable land was reserved, but, having regard to the density of the population and their condition, I question whether any general increase will be found advisable. The area of the New Territory is about 370 square miles, of which the cultivated area is about 45,000 acres or 61 square miles. The estimated population is 100,000. Therefore, although the population shows but 270 persons per square mile of the total area, the population per square mile of cultivated area is 1,639, and while the produce of the land must be added the result of the fishing, in which a considerable number of the inhabitants are engaged for a portion of the year, it is evident that, having regard to the density of the population, there can be but little taxable margin in the absence of other than agricultural industries. Although up to the present the hills have not been utilised for pastoral purposes, I am not without hope that by the introduction of more succulent grasses the 200 square miles of now barren hills may be made to support cattle sufficient to supply the demands of Hongkong, now dependent upon the import of cattle from the North and West River—sources that recent action of the Governor of Kwangsi in prohibiting export has shown to be somewhat precarious. The Botanical Department is at present examining into this question. For the improvement of agriculture, sugar-canes have been imported from the Straits Settlements and Honolulu, and over eleven thousand plants distributed among the Chinese, and improved sugar-mills have been introduced, while a wealthy and enterprising Chinese gentleman has established an experimental farm, in the conduct of which the Botanical Department is giving him assistance and advice.

9. The Expenditure was for the year 1901, \$326,668.73, of which \$163,741.11 was chargeable to the Land Court and Public Works Extraordinary—charges that will soon cease. It may, therefore, be roughly taken that the normal expenditure of the Territory will be about \$162,000. With the certain development of New Kowloon and the probable improvement of the pastoral capabilities of the hills, I am of opinion that within seven or eight years the Revenue and Expenditure of the New Territory will quadruple, and later on the Territory will materially assist in the General Revenue.

10. So far no systematic geological examination has been made either of the mainland or of the large island of Lantau, but as a silver-mine has been worked on the latter, it is possible that when the state of the revenue justifies the employment of a Geologist, minerals may be found in payable quantities, in which event the congestion of the agricultural population would be relieved and new conditions established that would increase prosperity. At present our most serious difficulties are armed robberies on shore and afloat, which, though steadily diminishing, are still of too frequent occurrence. They are the most common offences in the Southern provinces, and, so far as I can learn, the Provincial authorities do not attempt to deal with such cases until some village is reported as being specially notorious as harbouring robbers, when, if the authorities do not consider them too strong, a force is sent out and as many as possible arrested before the village destroyed. But at this moment there are on the Canton Delta two towns well

known as being the headquarters of organised gangs that commit the piracies of the West River. As, however, they can muster over one thousand fighting men, the Canton Viceroy does not dare to interfere with them. Such habits and customs cannot be controlled at once without a much larger Police force than we have at present, but the Police have, by a judicious system of patrolling, materially reduced the number of these offences, and a fair proportion of the perpetrators have been made amenable and are undergoing punishment, while the people, who were at first disinclined to appeal to the Police, now show a readiness to come forward and give assistance in the work of detection.

11. The education in the New Territory has up to the present been left in the hands of the village teachers; but a school is about to be established in the large village of Unlong in which English will be taught by a competent Chinese Master.

12. On the whole I consider the development of the New Territory satisfactory. There have been some difficulties experienced by the Public Works Department in carrying out their operations, but they have been surmounted without friction with the inhabitants, and without extravagance. The Taipo Road has opened up a beautiful country round the shores of Mirs Bay, free from the fog that make residence on the Peak so trying in the spring and early summer, and eight to ten degrees cooler than Hongkong. It is probable that in years to come country houses will be built in this district, and other developments take place, that will conduce to the comfort and well-being of the Colony.

#### PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION IN FORMOSA.

An exhibition of amateur photography was held in Taihoku, Formosa, for four days commencing on the 18th July. It was given under the auspices of the Formosa Society of Photography and Science, of which Mr. James W. Davidson, U.S. Consul, is president. The exhibition was open to societies throughout the Far East, and Shanghai, Foochow, Tokyo, and Manila societies, in addition to individual workers in Yokohama, Amoy, etc., sent exhibits. The work of the judges was completed on the 2nd instant, and the awards were as follows:—First prize, Mr. A. L. Hanley, of Yokohama, for landscape on black carbon. Second prize, Mr. Wilbur T. Gracey, of Foochow, for portrait on platinum. Third prize, Mr. R. Hoki, of Taihoku, for night-scene on Velox. Messrs. G. W. Pearson and G. Siemssen, of Foochow, Messrs. C. E. Darwent, M. Chaumont, D. Monnie, and R. C. Howlett, of Shanghai, all obtained honourable mention. Over 600 prints were hung.

A second series of prizes were given for work done exclusively by members of the Formosa Society, and the result was as follows.—First prize, Mr. Y. Yokoo, for landscape on cloth; second prize, Mr. James W. Davidson, for sunset-scene on Velox; third prize, Mr. M. Isoda, for river-scene on Velox.

The prizes are splendid examples of Japanese inlaid work in gold, silver, and enamel. They were provided from a fund generously presented to the society by His Excellency Baron Kodama, the Governor-General of Formosa. The judges were Mr. N. Nagao, Chief of Formosan Public Works, Dr. Okada, a well-known Japanese authority on photography, and the Rev. Mr. Fraser, an enthusiastic amateur in Formosa. The Formosan Society has been in existence four years, and its members are almost exclusively Japanese. The exhibition, which will be held yearly, will doubtless do much in stimulating amateurs throughout the East to take up artistic photography.

The *N.-C. Daily News* publishes this telegram dated Tokyo, 11th August:—The Korean Government has granted the Russian Lumber Co. a twenty-years' lease of 350 acres of land at Yong-Ampho, with the right to purchase at reasonable prices all the timber rafts floated down by Korean subjects, thereby conferring a practical monopoly of lumber in the Yalu valley. Thus Russia, while opposing the opening of Wiju, herself secures free access to the Yalu valley, and the command of the estuary of the river.



## NEW TERRITORY NOTES.

## SNIFE.

Snipe have made their appearance in some parts but the e is yet too much water in the fields to ensure good sport.

## THE RICE CROPS.

The first rice-crop has yielded a good average this year all over San On. The second rice-crop, now planted, looks very promising.

## CROWN RENT.

It is not an easy matter getting in Crown rent in the New Territory. Many who have ample means do not pay, for no other reason apparently than sheer "cussedness." The Government has now adopted more stringent measures, however, and the police are engaged serving summonses and distress warrants on the principal offenders.

## CANTON.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Canton, 19th August.

## THE NEW TROOPS.

Last week 2,500 of the Hupeh troops requisitioned by the Viceroy arrived, in the China Merchants' steamers *Faiching*, *Taishun*, and *Kungping*. With them came great stores of ammunition and several field-pieces, besides the men's own rifles. The last batch of these troops was conveyed by launch to Kwangsi last night. This great expedition, if it may be so called, is probably the best organised of its kind ever seen in China. The soldiers themselves are the pick of the Chinese army, but this is not saying much. I have seen these foreign-drilled troops ("foreign-drilled," by the by, is only second-hand, referring merely to the officers) in two or three parts of China, and they could not be called smart by the most merciful critic. Their squad-drill is middling—the men are kept up to the mark by vigorous kicks from their officers—but when they get to company drill their sins find them out. It is only, I believe, very rarely that any large operations are engaged in. At Nanking last year Chang Chih-lung's manoeuvres were said to be fairly successful, and these Hupeh troops were present then. Anyhow, their value will be put to the test now.

## THE REBELS.

The rebels are said to be full of confidence, owing to some small victories which they have gained lately over the Imperial troops. Among their ranks are large numbers of Marshal Su's late soldiers, and they are well supplied with arms by an anti-government society; so that a hard and interesting struggle will be witnessed.

## FEARS IN CANTON.

Canton is now entirely denuded of troops, and the Acting Viceroy and Tartar General are reported to have memorialised the throne about this dangerous condition of affairs. The latter has probably not yet recovered from his New Year's scare. The Cantonese troops who have been suppressing the disorder in Waichow will return shortly. It will be remembered that in the spring Waichow prefecture was in a very bad state, almost as bad, indeed, but on a smaller scale, as Kwangsi. The brigands have now been either driven out or slain, and the troops can be withdrawn with safety. The people who fear a rising of rebels in Canton itself should remember that there are thousands of troops within two day's journey, and that the active measures taken at New Year have taken the spirit out of the leaders of the reform party here.

[FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 19th August

## MEMORIAL AGAINST THE VICEROY.

The Tartar General and the Provincial Governor have jointly sent a memorial to the Emperor against the present Viceroy Shum, saying that in spite of the disturbances in some parts of Kwangtung His Excellency has taken away all the soldiers, ammunition, and money to Kwangsi to fight the rebels, leaving Canton quite unprotected and unprotected.

## TO STOP WILD RUMOURS.

There are so many rumours about the Kwangsi rebellion that in some cases officials, disguised as civilians, have been sent into res-

taurants and teashops with warrants and arrested persons talking about the troops being defeated by the rebels, and spreading wild rumours.

## THE HUPEH TROOPS.

The eight battalions (4,000 men), who arrived from Hupeh on the 13th inst., were provided with quarters on the Eastern parade ground. One half of the number has now been sent to Kwangsi under the command of General Cheang Hao Si. They are very stupid-looking sort of fellows, dressed in red uniforms, without hats, and each carrying two bamboo baskets, one for food and the other for clothing.

## ARMS IMPORTATION.

The Chinese officials have sent their agents to Hongkong and Macao to buy arms. Since, however, H.E. the Governor of Hongkong has sent a despatch to the officials here remonstrating, the Customs is making a very strict search on every steamer that arrives.

## A MILITARY ENROLMENT.

As I wrote before, a large number of suspicious-looking men with strange faces have been arriving from Waichow daily by native boats. In consequence of the large number of robberies the Namhoi Magistrate, Wong Sung, has by permission of the Viceroy enlisted two hundred soldiers—one hundred to do patrol service at the entrance of his yamen, fifty to be quartered in the Temple of the Five Hundred Genii, and fifty to act as water police.

## THE PEN AND THE SWORD.

Two schoolmasters, by name Lam and Yao, who teach English in the elementary class in the Chung Hok Tang prefectural school, have been ordered by Viceroy Shum to take some soldiers on to Kwangsi against the rebels.

## THE KWANGSI CAMPAIGN.

A traveller who has returned from Yum Chow to Canton says that General Fung Tse Choi, in spite of personal illness, reached Kwangsi on the 10th of August, having under his command four thousand troops. When he reached Kwangsi he found twenty battalions of soldiers were already awaiting him. By order of the Viceroy the battalions on the right of the river are to be under the command of General Cheang Yan Choi, and those on the left to be under the command of Fung Tse Choi. The greater number of Li Ka-cheuk's soldiers have joined the rebellion, but there are one thousand of them left to be under the command of the fourth son of Fung Tse Choi.

## AN OFFICIAL RUMOUR.

There is a rumour in mandarin circles that another Viceroy, by name Pang, will be appointed to Kwangtung in the place of H. E. Shum Chan Hui, and that the latter is to remain in Kwangsi until he suppresses the rebellion there.

## PLURALITY OF OFFICES.

In the absence of the Viceroy the Provincial Treasurer acted in his stead, and he having left for Kwangsi, the Provincial Judge is now acting as Viceroy, Treasurer, and Judge combined.

## THE USUAL TALE.

Theft and robbery are rife in Canton, Shan Ui, Shun Ning, Shew Hing, and Hok Shan. The robbers attack rich and poor alike, take away what they can carry, and set fire to the houses. Whoever gives information against them is sure to be attacked and punished, so in most of the principal streets in Canton the inhabitants have engaged watchmen to guard the houses.

## VLADIVOSTOCK.

The *Kobe Chronicle* writes:—The N.Y.K. steamer *Ise Maru*, which left Vladivostock on the 28th ult. and arrived in Kobe on Monday, brought news to the effect that upon her arrival at Vladivostock on the 24th ult. a number of bnoys were seen floating in the vicinity of the harbour. They proved, says a report in a Japanese paper, to be marks indicating the position of torpedoes, laid in the course of manoeuvres by the Russian war-ships. On the shore repairs to the forts were going on apace, while troops were constantly being drilled. Everything in the port, on land and water, indicated that the Russians were absorbed in preparations for defence against a possible attack. There were three armoured cruisers in the harbour of Vladivostock when the *Ise Maru* left there, and one of them was in dock. The Customs authorities were particularly strict in the examination of

Japanese goods. Upon Japanese *sake* the heavy duty of over 90 yen per tub or cask was imposed with an extra duty of 10 per cent. upon the duty, on the ground that *sake* contained a large percentage of alcohol. The Customs duty on *sake* would be about 100 yen per tub. When any dispute arose in regard to the nature of Japanese goods on account of the misjudgment of the Customs officers, the importers and the captain of the steamer which brought them were held responsible. Thus it appeared, according to the account of this correspondent, that the Russian authorities were trying their best to cause unpleasantness and disturb the trade between the two countries.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## NON-EFFICIENT VOLUNTEERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 13th August.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to say I fully endorse every word that your correspondent "One of the Gunners" has written in his letter to you of yesterday's date, but he does himself a gross injustice in hiding his identity under a *nom de plume*; such a patriotic and efficient (it would be horribly disappointing if this were not true) volunteer should not be allowed to bloom unseen and unknown. It militates strongly against his chances of promotion and deprives his country of the valuable knowledge and undoubted military ability such an efficient unit must possess, and which he would, no doubt, gladly place at her disposal in times of necessity and danger. Such a person could render her better and more valuable aid if he were in a more responsible position than that of a gunner; but if I may be permitted, I will point out the position that I think he would adorn and at the same time do justice to his pre-eminence abilities, it would be that of telepathic adviser to the "C. O." H.K.V., for the example he has given to the public of his powers, in this direction is too good to be lost.—Yours, etc.,

A. J. ELLIS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 14th August.

SIR,—As a civilian, may I record in your columns my hearty approval of Major Chapman's action in prosecuting a non-efficient volunteer. Mr. Playfair some months ago characterised the Volunteers as "useless items" and thereby caused a veritable storm of indignation in the Corps. It seems to me, if your correspondents' statements are correct that the Volunteers by their present conduct, are doing their best to prove the truth of Mr. Playfair's words. It would only bring a hornet's nest about one's ears to hint that the Colony could very well do without the Volunteers, and I should be the last to suggest such a step, yet one is inclined to ask if, in the event of trouble, the majority of the Force would not be more of an anxiety and in the way of the officer commanding the artillery than of assistance to him. As I have been a Volunteer artilleryman myself I know that the 10 days in camp, which I believe most of the men put in, though extremely valuable, are not enough to turn out a thoroughly efficient gunner. The Corps could not have a keener, more able or more energetic Commandant, and therefore if they wish to retain the sympathy and respect of the Colony they should follow his good example and wake up.—Yours, etc.,

TAXPAYER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 15th August.

SIR,—I have read with much interest the correspondence in your paper on the subject of Volunteering in Hongkong, and, from the point of view of an old Volunteer, heartily commend the views expressed by "Volunteer" and "Taxpayer."

Judging from the gradually diminishing strength of the Corps, and the barely sufficient number of drills put in by the majority of units, it seems to me that there is a deplorable lack of interest shown by the rank and file in the actual hard work and application to drills necessary to the smartness and efficiency of a



corps which every member should be eager to see flourish. Is this want of energy due to indifference on the part of the Hongkong youth in any occupation that does not partake of the nature of a pageant? It is to be hoped not. Members of the Corps should keep the traditions of British Volunteers before them and make up their minds to emulate the example of other Volunteers in the Empire by putting their shoulders to the wheel.—Yours, etc.,

AN ONLOOKER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 17th August.

SIR,—It is rather a pity that the question of the efficiency or non-efficiency of Volunteers should have come to be discussed in public print, but since the ball has been set rolling I may as well give it a kick. Volunteers, like poets, are born, not made, and I am rather afraid the Hongkong Volunteer Corps has been unfortunate in the matter of its births. It doesn't seem to have got hold of the right stuff. Now, I am a Volunteer here, and have been one too, at home, and I must honestly say I never stood in line anywhere with individuals possessing more peculiar notions on the subject of amateur soldiering than here. Some appear to imagine that the sole aim of volunteering is the wearing of a uniform that shall be as much in the style of a fashion plate as possible. What can you make of a man who complains that "the bally uniform is too much like an ordinary Tommy's, old chap; people think we're soldiers"? Should not he rather feel proud that people make such a mistake and pay him a compliment that neither his appearance nor his intellect entitles him to? Now an agitation has been started in the Corps for a new pattern of dress uniform, something presumably with a lot of buttons and braid that will look nice in a photograph. The thing is a farce. Look at the contingent that went home for the Coronation. Were the motives that prompted its members to come forward in every case the outcome of a patriotic desire to see this Far Eastern portion of the Empire fittingly represented at such an historic ceremony? Not by a long chalk. One, I know, had terminated his engagement here, and the trip furnished such an easy means of getting back home; besides, there was the journey over Canada, with enough cheap romance at the end to fill a penny novel—the music of the bands, the cheers of the crowd, and the tramp of "the men wot drills." There are other cases that could be cited, but time and space and a perhaps misplaced regard for the susceptibilities will not permit of their being dealt with. The place to see some types of Volunteer, though, is at the annual instruction camp, when, seated at the long deal table and drumming impatiently with his fingers on the white cloth covering it, one calls for "more pudding, boy, chop-chop," in a voice whose volume would make any ordinary company sergeant-major sit up in round-eyed amazement. Then, dinner over, our hero flicks the crumbs off his uniform, still showing the creases and emitting an odour of camphor, lights a cigarette, and strolls to the canteen, where, over a cherry brandy, he talks of six-inch guns, etc., with all the air and none of the knowledge of a veteran. But they are not all like this; there are in the Corps men who would be an acquisition in any body of civilian soldiers, and these do their best to maintain the traditions of the regiment to which they have devoted their services. They have a hard fight of it, and though the victory is not so complete as it might be, they succeed at least in imparting to the Corps something of the appearance of trained, disciplined men. These are the Volunteers we want—not persons whose ambitions never soar beyond the forage cap stuck at a fetching angle over their right ear. Such men are worse than useless, and the sooner they resign the sooner will come peace to the mind of—Yours, etc.,

TWO STRIPES.

#### LIMEWASHING AND CLEANSING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 14th August.

SIR,—With reference to Hon. Dr. Atkinson's declarations at the Sanitary Board

yesterday on the subject of limewashing and cleansing, one cannot but admit the truth of a certain amount of his reasoning. Doubtless the experiment in Second and Third Streets has proved successful so far as the cleansing of houses is concerned, and it seems on first reading to be a perfectly reasonable proposition that the operations there should be continued and even extended to other districts. The byelaws require that owners shall limewash and cleanse throughout their houses twice a year; and such limewashing and cleansing, says the President, should do much to check the annual outbreaks of plague. Also it has to be remembered that under the same byelaws householders are required to keep their houses clean. Then why should it devolve upon the house-owner to wash the floors every six months. If the sanitary inspectors were doing their duty the householders would have to keep their floors clean. Why should the house-owner biennially be called upon to do that which is incumbent upon the tenant to do always under the supervision of the officers of the Sanitary Board? As well say that the house-owner must see that the tenants wash their faces twice a year. House-owners are not averse to complying with the requirements of the Sanitary Board in the matter of keeping their houses sweet and clean, but suppose that, as has happened lately, they carry out these requirements in the same manner as was satisfactory to the Board a year ago, surely they are entitled to have their houses passed as being thoroughly finished off. If the Board insist on the cleansing and limewashing of houses then they may claim that the insides of the chimneys should be treated, which is *reductio ad absurdum*. The word "throughout" might mean something or nothing. As the President defines it, it might mean that even the window-panes must be limewashed. As for the kitchens in Chinese houses, these are generally covered with soot to begin with and limewashing spoils rather than improves their appearance, and it certainly does not add to their salubrity. Smoke is as much plague-repelling as is limewashing, though it may not be in accord with our ideas of public health.

But worst of all is the provision that the work is to be done to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Board. If that means anything surely it means that the Sanitary Board must define what is to be done. Otherwise owners are open to persecution on all sides. The owner may do his best to comply with the requirements and yet find when he has done his best that it still falls short, whereas if he knew what to do he might be perfectly willing to do it. There can be nothing more exasperating than for a man to do what he thinks is required of him and then to find that it does not satisfy the authorities and must be done practically all over again. Mr. Hewett's suggestion that all terms used in the byelaws should be defined specifically is one that must commend itself to all, and the sooner that be done, whether for bad or worse, the sooner will one of the problems with which the Sanitary Board and householders alike find themselves face to face be satisfactorily solved.—Yours, etc.,

KEISS.

#### UNANSWERED QUESTIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 16th August.

SIR,—In commenting on the trial of McEwen, the ex-Inspector of Markets, recently accused by the Government of accepting bribes, the Press rightly asked whether the men who had sworn to offering bribes to the accused public servant were to be prosecuted for this offence. No answer to this question has been publicly given, and I should like to ask whether it is a fact that the Government induced the men to give evidence by offering them a free pardon for the offence of which they unblushingly acknowledged themselves to be guilty? Perhaps it would be too much to expect the Government to confess this very unsatisfactory proceeding, but silence and failure to discharge an obvious public duty do but lead to the conclusion that the rumour is well based.

May I also ask, sir, what the Government has done in the matter of the disclosures made

at the trial of the murderer of the Chinese Reformer in Gage Street? The complicity of the Canton Government in this dastardly outrage on British soil was clearly established, but so far as the public are aware nothing has been done by either the Colonial or the Home Government to exact an apology or reparation.—Yours, &c.,

ARGUS.

#### THE HOUSING QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 21st August.

SIR,—We hear much of the hardships of the Chinese, of there being insufficient houses for them and of the Government turning them out into the street without a roof to cover them, and so forth. There are hundreds of houses at Hunghom and Yaumati, new and sanitary in every respect, absolutely without an occupant, and even the miserable price of \$4 a floor is insufficient to attract tenants. A Chinese coolie would sooner pay \$4 a month for sleeping space in Hongkong than fifty cents for the same space in Kowloon. This in itself could afford no grounds for objection were it not that he makes it a *prima facie* case always for obtaining more wages from his employer. It is an undoubted fact that Chinese love to herd together; they detest being isolated. Hongkong has many attractions which Kowloon does not afford, added to which the coolie, who, we will say, works in Hongkong and lives in Kowloon, cannot ever be sure of getting to his work in time. Unless this state of things is remedied Hongkong Chinese will never live at Kowloon.

The "service" (?) to Yaumati and Hunghom consists of native-owned launches which conform to no time-table or rules and which will keep their fares waiting an hour or two, sooner than make a start without the full complement of passengers. This could be remedied in either one of two ways. (1) To have a regular service of electric trams connecting Hunghom and Mongkoktsui with Tsimshatsui and each other. (2) To have a regular service of ferry-boats under Government or European control running between Hongkong and Yaumati and Hongkong and Hunghom. No doubt the existing "Star" Ferry Company would undertake the service without subsidy, if the Government would guarantee it against actual loss for five years. The Government wishes to prevent overcrowding, and turns people out into the street if there is a contravention of the Health Ordinance, yet it makes no effort to cope with the numberless difficulties which arise from its endeavours to improve the public health.

In the matter of enterprise the citizens of Hongkong are miles ahead of the Government, and any remunerative venture is jumped at at once, but the Government cannot expect private individuals to lose money for its benefit. Let the Government therefore give a Ferry Company or a Tramway Company some such guarantee as I have referred to, and I make bold to say that the overcrowding question will be relegated to the archives of an unsavoury and forgotten past.—Yours, etc.,

MAGPIE.

#### THE EXCHANGE AND TRADE PRICES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 18th August.

SIR,—I see in your advertisement columns that the Ice Company has very properly, owing to the rise in Exchange, reduced the price previously charged for ice.

Would it not be well for many local stores, especially those supplying provisions, etc., to follow the wise and just steps of the Ice Co.? The stores here think only of increasing their prices when the exchange is low, but when the pound is cheaper, no consideration is taken of their price-lists, and the public is unfairly called upon to pay the exorbitant prices now charged for everything.

Is it not time that the Government should try and do something to stop this "squeezing" and thus confer a boon to the hard earnings of the poor?—Yours, etc.,

BE JUST.



## V.R.C. AQUATIC SPORTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 18th August.

SIR,—It is indeed very creditable on the part of the Committee of the V.R.C. to have such useful and very interesting sports regularly every year. But it is rather a pity that they don't seem to have made any useful a teration in the old events, i.e., they follow something like "old custom." If the energetic secretary, Mr. White, decides to have the Championship of the Colony a two-mile or at least a one-mile race, I am sure many good and long swimmers will encourage this suggestion. This event is open to all comers. Besides this, they should have some events like breast swimming and swimming on back, life-saving, etc., etc. Thanking you for the insertion.—Yours, etc.,  
AN OLD SWIMMER.

## THE CASE OF INSPECTOR McEWEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 18th August.

SIR,—There can be few in the Colony who do not agree with you in your remarks in this day's issue of your paper in relation to the case of Inspector McEwen. It is in the hope that you will see your way to raise a subscription to help Mr. McEwen to pay the unavoidable expenses of his trial that I enclose a small cheque.—Yours, etc.,

MILES.

## PUBLIC DANGERS IN CAINE ROAD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 19th August.

SIR,—The publicity which I ask of you for this letter will surely cause a *mauvais quart d'heure*, spent in its perusal and consideration, to the persons for whom it is intended and who are my neighbours in Caine Road. I very much regret the necessity of having to give them any offence at all, as I am one of those who believe that it is a good policy to try to be on the best terms possible with one's neighbours, but, in the present instance, I consider that I should be failing in my duties towards humankind were I to keep silence. I shall, therefore, be much indebted to you, Mr. Editor, if you will kindly insert this letter in your earliest issue, so that some measures may at once be taken to suppress the evil in question. Caine Road has hitherto been considered as quite a peaceful and agreeable residential quarter, and I was quite happy in being able to share that opinion (which by-the-bye was a matter on which I inwardly congratulated myself) until some neighbours arrived with an unmistakable liking for dogs and their vicious habits. I may here mention that I do not detect dogs; they are inoffensive and useful when properly domesticated and looked after, but I believe most people will agree with me that the line must be drawn where they begin to show a pronounced inclination for the study of human anatomy.

Two weeks ago a Chinese woman, who happened to be peacefully passing along Caine Road, at about 7 o'clock in the morning, was set upon by a couple of my neighbour's dogs for fully quarter of an hour before anyone came to drive them away. The poor woman was bitten in several parts of the body and nearly denuded of her clothing. She could scarcely stand on her legs and would undoubtedly have fainted from fear and exhaustion had the struggle lasted just another five minutes. Since then a few other Chinese have also been set upon by the same dogs, the last case taking place yesterday at 6 p.m. when another Chinese woman was bitten in two places before anyone came to her help.

This is certainly a very great public danger, especially to children alone or in charge of their amahs, and I would advise parents not to allow their children to pass through Caine Road, particularly at the point where it branches off into Lower Castle Road. It is to be regretted that the owners of such ferocious animals should have taken no effective measures to put a stop to this public danger, thus compelling people to come reluctantly to the Press in order to have the matter made public and brought to the notice of the proper authorities. While on this subject I would also like to

refer to another public danger which exists also in Caine Road. It is the stupid practice of some undisciplined urchins, whose parents reside in a terrace just above Caine Road, of throwing stones into houses in Caine Road and Lower Castle Road. Windows are thus smashed and roofs holed, and the safety of passers-by is endangered. I know of a case in which a lady passing through Caine Road on her way home miraculously escaped being struck on the head with a huge stone. Coming as the stone did from a height of 50 feet more or less, the result of such a blow had it taken effect can better be imagined than described!—Yours, etc.,

DISGUSTED NEIGHBOUR.

## THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

## HALF-YEARLY MEETING.

The seventy-sixth ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders in the above Corporation was held on the 15th inst. in the City Hall. Mr. A. J. Raymond (chairman of the Court of Directors) presided, and the others present were—Hon. C. W. Dickson and Messrs. H. F. Tomkins, E. Goetz, C. Michelan, H. Schubart, F. Shellim, H. W. Slade, E. S. Whealler (directors), J. R. M. Smith (Chief Manager), Hon. G. Stewart, Messrs. S. Hancock, C. W. May, G. Murray Bain, R. T. Wright, D. Forbes, H. W. Fraser, H. E. R. Hunter, E. A. Lowe, D. D. Graydon, J. Humphreys, P. A. Barlow, C. A. Tomes, C. J. Gonsalves, W. J. Greson, W. B. Dixon, J. Van Buren, C. H. Thompson, J. R. Michael, A. G. Morris, W. H. Potts, E. A. Hewett, W. E. Clarke, Ho Fook, G. L. Tomlin, H. M. B. Nemaze, J. J. Leiria, J. M. Alves, A. G. Wood, E. Kelly, Lam Sai, W. Lysaught, etc.

The notice calling the meeting having been read, as well as the annual report, which has already been published,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—I think you will consider the report, which I have just read a very satisfactory result of our working for the half-year. The division of profits recommended by your directors will, I hope, also meet with your approval. It is a continuation of the policy which has enabled the Bank to attain its present strong position. Looking at the figures, you will observe a considerable falling off in the current account deposits. Six months ago our London Office held a portion of the instalments on the recent issue of Imperial Japanese Government Bonds; that money has since been paid over, and more than accounts for the reduction in the gold amount. The decrease in silver accounts is also chiefly due to the withdrawal of various Government funds, temporarily deposited at some of our Eastern branches. The corresponding reduction on the other side falls under the headings of Bullion in Transit, and Bills Receivable. Bills Discounted, Loans and Credits, show a reduction of \$2,000,000, but compared with the corresponding date last year they are \$8,000,000 higher. The only other item calling for special mention is Bank Premises account; this is now \$1,311,142.54 against \$829,123 on 31st December last, and the increase is largely due to the purchase of a property in Shanghai adjoining our premises there, which it was thought desirable in every way to acquire for the Bank. We have also had occasion to enlarge the office accommodation at some of our other branches, which, as my predecessors have pointed out, is what we must be prepared for as the natural outcome of our increasing business. With the \$200,000 written off, as proposed in the present report, the account will then stand at \$1,111,142.54. There has been almost an entire immunity from losses, indicating that the large business in which we are engaged is in a sound and healthy condition. At some points trade has suffered by threatened disturbance in the political atmosphere of the Far East, but we hope that the war clouds which are hanging around will soon pass away. The import of cotton goods and yarn also received a check, due to the sudden and sustained advance in the price of the raw material but, as it happened, this unexpected rise in cotton served to relieve the situation for many of our friends, especially in the North of China, where heavy stocks had accumulated and where trade was for a time

brought to a deadlock by financial difficulties which the native dealers had to contend with: those difficulties, I am pleased to say, are gradually being surmounted. During the half-year we experienced more than the usual fluctuations in the price of silver, the tendency of which has been upward, and the consequent rise in exchange caused, at times, an exceptional demand for gold remittances, but we are glad to think that, whilst duly protecting the Bank's own interest, we have been able to meet all the demands made upon us for exchange. At our last meeting, reference was made by my predecessor in the chair to the question of establishing a national and uniform coinage for China, and though no decisive steps have as yet been taken with regard to this matter, it has the support, and is receiving the serious attention of all who are interested in trade in this part of the world. He also referred to the currency question in other countries around us; since then the Philippines and Straits Settlements have declared for gold, but in both those countries, and also in Siam, the currency is in the transition stage, which tends to dislocate exchange and interport trade for the time being. China continues to prove an attractive field for new banks, but we are in a good position to hold our own and meet competition as it comes along. We are happy to say that our friends all round loyally support us, and, so long as there is the "open door," we can look forward with confidence to the future, and feel assured of obtaining our full share in the expansion of trade, which is bound to come as the natural sequel to the opening up of a country by railways and we hope to see increasing activity in these enterprises throughout the Chinese Empire. Gentlemen, the highly satisfactory figures now before you have been produced in what I may fairly describe as more than ordinary difficult times for exchange banking, and I am sure you will all agree that our thanks are due to our managers and agents, and the staff generally, for their successful efforts. (Applause.) It was with great regret that we recently heard of the death of Mr. David Jackson, our Yokohama manager. Mr. David Jackson had spent 25 years in the service of the Bank in various parts of the East. He was everywhere popular and was one of our most able and successful managers. In conclusion, I am glad to be able to state that the business for the current half-year has opened well. If any shareholder desires any further information I will be pleased to answer any questions.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

Mr. W. J. GRESSON—Gentlemen, I have much pleasure in recording the adoption of the report and accounts as presented. The Chairman has so fully informed us of the prosperous condition of the Bank that I do not think there is anything that I can usefully add, but in congratulating the managers and staff on the results of their efforts as shown by the last six months' working I am sure I express the voice of all shareholders. (Applause.)

The motion was put to the meeting and carried *nem. diss.*

On the motion of Mr. J. S. VAN BUREN, seconded by Mr. C. H. THOMPSON, the appointment of Messrs. E. Shellim, H. W. Slade, and E. S. Whealler to the Court of Directors in place of Messrs. D. M. Moses, G. Balloch, and G. H. Medhurst, resigned, was confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday. Thank you for your attendance.

Mr. MURRAY BAIN—We should pass a most hearty vote of thanks to the Board of Directors, the Chief Manager, and the staff for the excellent services they have rendered during the last half-year. Some of us, I dare say, remember, since the establishment of this institution, a large number of directors and chief managers, but I don't hesitate to say that at the present time our interests are in charge of a body of men who could not be equalled during the history of our bank. It appears to me, gentlemen, that the mantle of the late Sir Thomas Jackson of happy memory has fallen very gracefully upon the shoulders of Mr. Smith, and I think you will agree with me when I express the hope that he will long be spared amongst us to wear that mantle with comfort and satisfaction to himself and to the mutual advantage of



us all. We have heard a great deal of late about fixity of exchange, and about great revolutions that are going to take place with regard to the currency of China. It is a difficult problem, and it is not for anyone to pretend to understand it fully. But there is one thing that is pretty certain, and that is that we may rest assured that we have a board of direction and of management that are fully equal to any emergency that may arise, and we can look forward confidently that, when the time comes, they will see us safely through. I ask you to pass a hearty vote, not only for excellent services rendered, but in the confident hope that they will serve us also in the future.

The vote of thanks having been passed with acclamation, the meeting dispersed.

## SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 17th August.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE EWO COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING CO., LD.

In the matter of the Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., and the Companies Ordinances of 1877 and 1886, Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. J. Hastings of Messrs. Deacon & Hastings, solicitors), appeared in support of a petition for confirming a special resolution reducing the capital of the above-mentioned Company from Tls. 1,750,000 to Tls. 750,000.

Hon. Mr. Pollock stated that according to the special resolution, which had been duly passed at a meeting of the Company in Shanghai in July of last year, it was provided that the capital of the Company be reduced from the sum of Tls. 1,750,000, divided into 17,500 shares of Tls. 100 each, to the sum of Tls. 750,000, divided into 15,000 fully paid up shares of Tls. 50 each, and that such reduction be effected by cancelling the 2,500 shares of the existing shares which have not been issued, and by cancelling capital which has been lost or is unrepresented by available assets to the extent of Tls. 50 per share upon each of the 15,000 fully paid up shares which have been issued and are now outstanding. The Court was now petitioned, under the Companies Ordinances, to confirm that resolution.

His Lordship said he had looked into the papers and he saw from the petition that it was expressly stated that the reduction of capital did not involve either the diminution of any liability in respect of unpaid capital or the payment to any shareholder of any paid up capital. That being so, he understood the creditors were practically unaffected by this.

Hon. Mr. Pollock—That is so, my Lord.

His Lordship granted the petition.

The Court adjourned.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

ACTION AGAINST THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

His Lordship gave judgment in the case in which the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steam-boat Co., Ltd., sued the Attorney-General for damages in reference to the erection of a match shed contiguous to the Company's wharf on the Praya. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. H. J. Gedge of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors), appeared for the plaintiff, and on the other side the Hon. Attorney-General, Sir Henry S. Berkeley, appeared (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor).

His Lordship said—In this case the plaintiffs claim damages for the breach of the provisions of a verbal agreement and Crown lease, and for the obstruction therefrom. There were also certain other allegations in the pleadings as to illegal searching, but as no mention is made on those points in the claim, and as I am clearly of opinion that the plaintiffs could not recover damages under those heads, I shall ignore the point altogether. The facts are shortly as follows:—In or about December, 1899, the plaintiffs entered into a verbal agreement with the Government for the erection of a wharf,

and the said verbal agreement continued in force until the execution of a Crown lease, dated October 1, 1901, which was for a period of 28 years from January 1, 1900. By this Crown lease the right of erecting and maintaining the wharf was demised to the plaintiffs. Prior to the execution of the said Crown lease (October 1, 1901), the Government erected a match shed over the sea against the eastern side of the said wharf. After the commencement of these proceedings this match shed was injured in a typhoon and the Government erected another one about five feet away from the wharf. The match sheds were used by the opium-farmer for searching passengers. The plaintiffs complained that these match sheds caused an obstruction and interfered with their right of access and therefore were in breach of the provisions of their original verbal agreement and subsequent Crown lease. After the pleadings had been filed the Court ordered that an issue or issues of law should be framed and disposed of as a preliminary step. Accordingly the following issue of law was agreed upon:—Assuming that the acts, facts, matters, and things alleged in the amended statement of claim and reply (included by consent) are proved, do they constitute a cause of action by the plaintiff against the defendant? Before going into the case I had better dispose of the point raised by the plaintiffs which if decided in their favour puts an end to the action at once. In the amended statement of claim it is alleged and admitted that the Government erected a match shed and it is alleged that the erection of such match shed was a breach of the Government of the provisions of the said verbal agreement and Crown lease. It was contended on behalf of the plaintiffs that by the terms of the issue before the Court the defendant had admitted that there had been a breach and that therefore there was an end of the matter. The defendant contended that he had only admitted acts, etc., namely, the erection of the match shed, but that he did not admit the breach, as that was not an act, etc., but a mere deduction of law made by the plaintiffs, and I am of opinion that such contention is correct. If I had been hearing this case with a jury it is perfectly clear I should not have left the question of breach to the jury. Therefore I think that the plaintiffs have failed in their contention. As to the other points raised at the hearing I think that it will be convenient, having decided that the defendant has not admitted a breach, to consider the question as to breach or no breach, reserving the further question raised as to whether this action is founded on tort or on contract. Taking therefore the plaintiff's contention that this action is founded on contract, it will be necessary to enquire as to what are the general rules to be followed in construing contracts of this nature. It is clearly laid down that in construing grants from the Crown such grants, contrary to the usual rule, are to be construed strictly against the grantees, and that nothing passes except that which is expressed or which is a matter of necessary and unavoidable intentment in order to give effect to the claim an undoubted intention of the grant (see *Cockburn v. Reg.* 6 Best and Smith 283). In the present case the demise in the Crown lease was the right of erecting and maintaining the wharf and nothing else so far as the working of the lease goes. It was argued on behalf of the plaintiff that there must be an implied covenant for free access and quiet enjoyment and that there had been a breach of such covenant by the erection of the match shed which the defendant admitted prevented free access. The defendant contended, firstly, that in accordance with the rule referred to above the grant must be construed strictly as a grant to erect and maintain alone, and nothing could be implied; and secondly, that even if such a covenant might be implied in certain cases yet it could not in this case, as the match shed had been erected prior to the execution of the Crown lease, and that, therefore, the plaintiffs took the lease with the obstruction there. It is true that the lease dates back to a period prior to the erection of the match shed, but they made no objection to its erection and took their lease with it beforehand. The plaintiffs, however, state that they did not immediately object, because they thought it was only a temporary erection. This explanation is unsatisfactory to me, and I am of opinion that under the circumstances even if

such a covenant could ever be implied it ought not to be in this case (see *Robson v. Palace Chambers* 12 Times L. R. 56). For these reasons I am of opinion that there has been no breach of contract as alleged by the plaintiffs. The defendant also contended that the whole action was founded on tort and that no such action could be brought against the Crown, and quoted *Feather v. Reg.* (referred to before) where *Cockburn v. Reg.* states:—"It follows that a petition of right which complains of a tortious act done by the Crown or by a public servant by the authority of the Crown discloses no matter of complaint which can entitle a petitioner to redress and that as our Code of Civil Procedure, Sec. 478, enacts that claims against the Colonial Government must be of the same nature as claims within the provisions of the Petitions of Right Act, 1860, this action does not lie." Although in the face of my previous ruling it is unnecessary to decide this point, yet I am inclined to think that at all events when those proceedings were first instituted the right of action, if any, was in the nature of an action for trespass, though I have not found a case that goes quite so far. The Attorney-General also referred to Schedule D of Ordinance 15 of 1889, and as there is no evidence before me of the exact dates of the commencement of the verbal negotiations between the parties, and as the Crown lease ran from January 1st, 1900, I do not feel inclined to rest my decision on this contention. As the result of the above I find that the defendant succeeds on the issue of law and is entitled to his costs.

The Court adjourned.

Tuesday, 18th August.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

NO INDICTMENT.

The Hon. Attorney-General Sir Henry S. Berkeley stated that he had no indictment to bring forward against *Cheng Ut Po*, *Ho Yan Fuk*, *Mak Lim*, and *Pan Yat Sheung*, who had been committed to the Sessions on a charge of larceny.

The accused were discharged.

FORGERY AND FRAUD.

*Chan Yik* was indicted on three charges—obtaining a registered letter addressed to the *Wing Loong* shop, by virtue of a forged receipt with intent to defraud on 15th June; uttering a forged endorsement on a bill of exchange for \$114 on the *Chartered Bank*; and obtaining the registered letters by virtue of a forged receipt.

He pleaded guilty and was represented by Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. J. Hastings, solicitor). The Crown was represented by the Hon. Attorney-General, Sir Henry S. Berkeley (instructed by Mr. H. Hursthouse of Messrs. Dennys & Bowley).

The Attorney-General said the facts were very simple and as they were already before his Lordship he did not propose to add anything.

Mr. Slade stated that the prisoner had acted under his advice in pleading guilty, and he had given that advice because it seemed to him that all the facts that could be put forward on the prisoner's behalf amounted to a strong recommendation to mercy rather than going to show that he was not guilty. The depositions showed that the prisoner obtained the letters from the Post Office and produced a chop which was on the face of it a *Wing Loong* chop and signed the name *Li Yuen*. The chop was undeniably a forged chop. It appeared that the prisoner did not know positively although he might have had a very strong ground for supposing that the chop was not a genuine chop. But the depositions showed that *Li Yuen* was not a fictitious person but was certainly at one time and until quite recently an employee of the *Wing Loong* shop, occupying an important position. In the evidence of the master of the shop there was an admission that *Li Yuen* had claims to be a partner. When the prisoner was asked by *Li Yuen* to go to get the registered letters for him, he submitted that *Chan Yik* thought he was doing no wrong.

His Lordship—If he thought he was doing no wrong he should not have pleaded guilty.



Mr. Slade proceeded to say that while Chan Yik was committing a crime in fact, he thought he was excused by something he had in his possession—namely, a letter of attorney authorising him to collect money for and sign the name of Li Yuen. Chan Yik did what he did do not for his own profit but for the profit of the man Li Yuen. In the circumstances he submitted that this was a case to be commended very favourably to mercy.

His Lordship deferred sentence until after the adjournment so that he might read through the depositions.

After luncheon, his Lordship passed sentence of two years' hard labour in respect of the first count, and one year's hard labour in respect of each of the second and third—four years in all, making the comment that the plan carried out by the prisoner was a remarkably cunning one allowing him to pose as the innocent tool of another if discovered.

#### STABBING AFFRAY IN BONHAM STRAND.

Chan Mun was charged with having on 18th June in Bonham Strand wounded one Hi Yi by stabbing him with a knife with intent to do him grievous bodily harm.

He pleaded not guilty.

The following just was empanelled:—Messrs. A. Bryson, C. W. George, J. Bonastow, W. C. Drew, H. Schierenberg, F. T. Colson and E. D. Haskell.

The Attorney-General in opening the case for the Crown stated that Hi Yi, who was a boatman, was on the day in question walking near the east end of Bonham Strand when he met the defendant, whom he apparently knew. They began to talk about some things that had been pawned and a dispute arose. Some companions led Hi Yi away, and when he was about 100 yards away from the scene of the quarrel Hi Yi suddenly felt a stab in the back. On turning round he saw the prisoner running away and chased and captured him. Hi Yi was stabbed in the region of the kidneys and had to be kept in hospital for some six weeks. Prisoner's defence was that he did not stab the complainant, and that the latter had made the mistake of thinking he had done it because he saw him running away.

The complainant having given evidence,

Dr. W. V. M. Koch of the Government Civil Hospital was called to give medical evidence. He was not in attendance, and his absence provoked some important observations on witness's recognisances, which will be found in another column.

After hearing other evidence the jury found the prisoner guilty as libelled.

His Lordship sentenced him to two years' imprisonment with hard labour and to receive 20 strokes of the birch within the first week.

#### CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER AGAINST EUROPEAN POLICE SERGEANT.

Alfred George Brimble, police sergeant, was charged with having on 3rd August at Yaumati killed a Chinaman named Tsang Chak.

He pleaded not guilty and was defended by Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. J. Hastings, solicitor).

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. H. Schierenberg, J. S. Gubbay, W. E. Claret, W. G. G. Worcester, J. Gillespie, E. D. Haskell and P. Lawson.

The Attorney-General in his opening statement said that on the day in question about 7 o'clock defendant was in a brothel in Temple Street, Yaumati. He was in uniform. A crowd collected round about the place. He saw the crowd and went outside and dispersed it. Then he was said by four witnesses to have been seen to kick the deceased man and inflicted injuries from which he subsequently died. Witnesses stated that the defendant kicked the deceased between the legs behind. When kicked the man fell down then rose and walked away to Yaumati Police Station and reported what had been done to him. He was taken to the Government Civil Hospital, where he died on the 7th August. The doctor would say that he died from a rupture which caused suppression of the urine. Defendant admitted that he was in this brothel and that while engaged in dispersing a crowd he struck two or three young men, but he denied striking the deceased.

Inspector D. Macdonald, Yaumati, was the first witness called. He gave formal evidence. Cross-examined by Mr. Slade, witness said that while Sergeant Brimble was under him

he gave every satisfaction and his conduct was good; he was a good police officer.

By the Court—He did not order the defendant to go to this brothel on duty; defendant had no right to go in unless on police duty.

Dr. E. A. R. Gibson deposed that he found the deceased to be suffering from a ruptured urethra causing suppression of the urine. The man died from his injuries. These injuries must have been caused by a blow on the urethra, most probably a kick. Deceased was about 56 years of age and was a feeble man.

Other evidence was given for the Crown to the effect that the defendant kicked the deceased, who thereupon fell to the ground but afterwards rose and walked away.

Mr. Slade, who stated that he intended to call only one witness for the defence, said the defendant did not go into the brothel for an immoral purpose, but simply to ask a hawker whom he saw prosecuting business there if he had a licence. Seeing a constable enter the house a crowd collected to await developments, and were dispersed by the defendant, who put them aside with his open hands and went away. There the matter ended, so far as he was concerned.

Chun Tai Kum said that on the evening of 3rd August she went to visit a house in Temple Street, Yaumati, after arriving from Shauiwan. Whilst she was in the house, in the sitting-room on the ground floor, a hawker came in, followed by the defendant. The latter spoke to the witness first, then asked the hawker to produce his licence. This was produced and inspected, and afterwards the hawker went away. Witness and the defendant went to the kitchen and exchanged a few words, after which he went out. He had a piece of firewood in his hand, and waved it at the people gathered round the door, whom he told to go away; witness took the firewood from the defendant, who went away when the crowd had dispersed. From beginning to end there was no kicking; had there been any witness would have seen it, for she was there all the time.

This concluded the case for the defence, and Mr. Slade addressed the jury on behalf of the prisoner.

The Attorney-General followed on behalf of the Crown, and when his Lordship had summed up.

The jury, without leaving the box, unanimously found the prisoner not guilty, and he was discharged.

The Court adjourned.

Wednesday, 19th August.

#### IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

#### ARMED ROBBERY.

Eight Chinese by name Wong Tak, U Shun, Wong Chik, Wong Wa, Wong Shing, Chan Kwan, Ip Mau, and Kenug Tsau, were charged with having on 18th July at Deep Bay in the waters of the Colony, being then armed with poles and hoes, assaulted Cheng Siu and Cheng King Ti and stolen a boat belonging to the first-named and \$40 in money; and also, on second count, with having assaulted Cheng King Ti.

They pleaded not guilty and were defended by Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. D. Piper of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, solicitors). The Attorney-General, Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley (instructed by Mr. H. Hursthouse of Messrs. Deacons and Bowley, solicitors), conducted the prosecution for the Crown.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. H. S. Holmes, E. D. Haskell, W. R. Claret, S. J. Godwin, A. E. Alves, J. W. Stewart, and R. G. Heckford.

The Attorney-General in his opening statement said that the scene of this affair was Hoihao, in Deep Bay, near the mouth of the Shamchun River. On the day in question the two complainants were engaged in rowing passengers out to the steam-launch, *Lee Fat* which runs to Hongkong, when they were set upon by a large crowd of boatmen, who beat them, seized and smashed up the

boat, and took away \$40 in money that was on board. The second complainant was very badly beaten. The motive for this action of the boat-people was said to be that the *Lee Fat* was injuring their trade in carrying passengers to Hongkong and other places.

Evidence was given.

The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and the accused were discharged.

The Court rose.

#### SIR ERNEST SATOW AND THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

The *N.C. Daily News* writes that the interview between the British Minister and the Committee of the China Association at Shanghai was remarkable for the unanimity that evidently existed between the Association and the Minister. There is no Englishman in China, says the journal, who will not confirm the concluding paragraph in the address presented to Sir Ernest: "We desire to repeat the feelings of satisfaction which are held by all British subjects in China at the presence of your Excellency once more amongst us, to have this personal opportunity of making our acknowledgments of the untiring care to British interests which has characterised the period of your Excellency's tenure of your high office." The address being private, our contemporary is of course unable to print it, but gives the gist of it as follows:— "It naturally begins by congratulating his Excellency on his return to China with fresh distinctions and wider powers; and it as naturally goes on to refer to the alarm that is felt lest Russia should close the open door in Manchuria, and impose before long discriminating tariffs and trade disabilities. . . . It was natural that the Association should draw Sir Ernest's attention to the strides that are being made in railway construction in China by the subjects of other Powers with the constant aid of their Governments, as contrasted with the very slow progress made by British railways. It was natural that they should point out that many of these railways have political not commercial aims, and that intentional endeavours seem to be made to thwart British enterprises even in what Great Britain claims as her sphere of influence. But it must honestly be confessed that British enterprise is not without blame in this matter, and that the British Legation has not been backward in giving all the assistance in its power. . . . In alluding to the apparent excess of imports over exports in China, amounting in the last two years to an average of a hundred million taels, the Association opened a question which requires much more investigation and elucidation. One thing is certain, that China is not called upon to pay out any such sum as this; a large part of it is represented by the foreign capital that is being invested in China in railway, etc., and we see no cause for alarm in the present position, though on the other hand China's wealth will increase much faster when she realises what she would gain by abolishing export duties, improving her means of internal communication, and developing her mineral resources. Undoubtedly one of the most important stipulations in the lately ratified Treaty of Shanghai is that calling for an uniform national coinage, and there can be no one who has the true interests of the China trade at heart who will not echo the hope that the Chinese Government will give effect to this undertaking as early as possible. We are glad to know that attention was drawn to the fact that the Conservancy of the Whangpoo has not taken a step forward since the Protocol was signed two years ago. It is incredible that if the Consular Body here had taken up the matter strenuously they could not have succeeded in getting the intended board made up. . . . The unsatisfactory position of the Mixed Court, and the desirability of having the incomplete provisional regulations of last year superseded by a definite and satisfactory code naturally formed one of the subjects in the address to Sir Ernest. What is asked is only what has often been asked and what is essentially just, that a Chinese defendant, whatever the nationality of his prosecutor, shall be tried in the Mixed Court of the Settlement in which he resides, an assessor of the same nationality



as the prosecutor, or acceptable to the prosecutor, sitting with the native magistrate.

It is understood that Sir Ernest Sallow's reply to the Association showed both a full acquaintance with the points submitted to him, and a determination to use every possible means to set the matter satisfactorily.

## SPORTING NOTES.

(Daily Press, 22nd August.)

The idea of sport is not as a rule much connected with Hongkong in August. We may read of cricket and football in Singapore, of cricket, baseball and yachting in Shanghai and Japan, but in Hongkong the long spell of summer is still on us, and lawn tennis and golf are the only outdoor recreations indulged in—they being in fact perennial here. It is generally well into the beginning of October before we begin to think here of cricket, football, and hockey, those more vigorous sports which are thought here only to be possible in the cool months. But this year things are not quite so backward and the name of cricket is already in the air. The reason is that it is hoped that a cricket team may be sent up to Shanghai, there to meet the representatives of the home Club and of Japan in an interport tournament. Originally, I believe, Shanghai invited both Kobe and Yokohama to send teams down to compete with themselves and with Hongkong. But the committees of the two Japanese clubs have decided that it is impossible to raise separate elevens and are therefore inviting their members to send in their names for a combined Kobe and Yokohama side. According to a Kobe writer, seeing that Shanghai met the two Japanese teams at Kobe three years ago, and that this is the second time an invitation has been sent to the Clubs in Japan to return the visit, no doubt every effort will be made to send a representative team from the two ports in October. It is to be hoped that this expectation will be fulfilled and that Hongkong, Shanghai, and Japan may all meet.

To give credit where it is due, it was the Boat Club that first conceived the idea of going up to Shanghai this autumn to fight for interport honours. The wish was to send up Hongkong's best four to the Shanghai Regatta, and then the suggestion to send a cricket team at the same time, if possible, was mooted. Football was apparently out of the question from the beginning. The Boat Club's challenge was looked upon favourably at Shanghai; and it was hoped to send up the following four to battle for Hongkong:—H. Kennett (cox), Lieut. H. L. Biagay, W. O. Koelher, G. H. Edwards, and F. C. Barlow. Of these Koelher and Barlow might also go for the double sculls and Kennett and Koelher for the singles. Now, however, it appears that Biagay will no longer be in Hongkong in October next, so that a reconstruction of the four is necessary. Worse still, there seems now a likelihood of another withdrawal from the crew. Yesterday evening a committee meeting of the Boat Club was held to discuss the matter.

With regard to the cricket team there is no doubt Hongkong could put a very "hot" eleven into the field, could all the best players get off to go to Shanghai. Unfortunately the condition is not one which is likely to be fulfilled, I fear. But if the following side could be got together, we might look forward with hope to the performances of Hongkong at the Interport tournament:—Ward, the two Hancocks, Maitland, the elder Dixon, W. C. D. Turner, R. E. O. Bird, Arthur, Pierce, and Lieuts. Smith, R. A., and Rimington, S. F. With a little practice these would take a lot of beating, and there are at least six bowlers:—Bird, Dixon, the Hancocks, Pierce, and Turner. There are of course other candidates to whom consideration must be given, especially in the event of some of the above mentioned being unable to go north. The Cricket Club had a committee meeting on Thursday about the visit to Shanghai, but their decision is withheld at present.

At the Golf Club the Professional Pairs competition is proceeding. The second round is nearly through; it has to be completed by Monday next. A mixed foursome competition

is to be started for a prize kindly offered by one of the local lady golfers. The latter, by the way, have been practising very energetically of late. The links are in rather a sodden condition after the late rains and tees and greens alike have suffered severely. In the middle of the present week some of the tees were almost unrecognisable.

The football season will start about the middle of next month, when the six-a-side competition will commence. The H.K.A.F.C. will begin serious operations about a month later. There are rumours about a change of leadership, but it is to be hoped that Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar will continue to give the Club the benefit of his experience. I have not heard of any promising recruits so far.

Lawn tennis has been with us all through the summer, but additional interest is lent to it now by the Wigwam Club tournaments. These comprise A and B class singles handicap, double handicap, and the championship singles. As a start was only made a week ago it is too early to speak in detail of the event, but the championship seems to lie between Hancock, J. E. Lee (who is playing very strongly just now), and possibly Humphreys. The former is naturally favourite, on account of his past record.

Hockey will begin some time in October. Polo has already commenced, though the match season is not started yet. By the way, I hear that we have in our midst at the present an episcopal polo-player—surely a novelty in China.

Latest reports about snipe being unfavourable, it is doubtful whether many guns will be out this week-end. I know of one shooting party at least which has been postponed. Birds are to be found, but the watery conditions are much against the man with the gun.

OMPAX.

## WATER RETURN.

### LEVEL AND STORAGE OF WATER IN RESERVOIRS ON THE 1ST AUGUST.

|                | 1902.            | 1903.           |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
|                | Above overflow.  | Level.          |
| Tytam .....    | 0 ft. 2½ in.     | 0 ft. 0 in.     |
| Pokfulam ..... | 0 ft. 1 in.      | Below overflow. |
|                |                  | 0 ft. 5½ in.    |
| Wongneicheong  | 2 ft. 0 in.      | Above overflow. |
|                |                  | 0 ft. 0½ in.    |
|                | STORAGE GALLONS. |                 |
|                | 1902.            | 1903.           |
| Tytam .....    | 384,800,000      | 384,800,000     |
| Pokfulam ..... | 66,000,000       | 65,010,000      |
| Wongneicheong  | 33,260,000       | 30,398,000      |
| Total .....    | 484,060,000      | 480,208,000     |

### CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF JULY.

|                              | 1902.       | 1903.               |
|------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Consumption                  | 122,179,000 | 138,353,000 gallons |
| Estimated population         | 214,700     | 219,600             |
| Consumption per head per day | 18.3        | 20.3 gallons        |

### CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF JULY.

|                              | 1902.      | 1903.              |
|------------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Consumption                  | 16,703,000 | 14,043,000 gallons |
| Estimated population         | 57,000     | 62,950             |
| Consumption per head per day | 9.4        | 7.2 gallons        |

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

W. CHATHAM,

Water Authority.

The *Bangkok Times* understands that all arrangements have now been made for the formation of the new tramways company. It is to have a capital of Ticals 500,000 in shares of Ticals 100 each, and Ticals 500,000 in debentures bearing interest at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum. There will thus be a million ticals available for the construction of the works, and it is expected that the main lines will be open to traffic by April, 1905.

## HONGKONG.

Only two plague cases were reported during the week.

The Hongkong Cricket Club had a committee meeting on Thursday evening with reference to the Interport team for Shanghai. The decision arrived at has not yet been made public.

The statutory meeting of the Shanghai and Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ltd., was held in the office of the general manager, Mr. G. C. Moxon, at Victoria Buildings, on the 15th inst. The business was formal.

We understand that Hongkong is to have a new weekly paper soon, of a social nature. It is rumoured that it will bear a resemblance to the *Maui Sunday Sun*. Hongkong will shortly rival Shanghai in the number of its journals.

A new set of five bells has been received for the Roman Catholic Cathedral, and they are to be placed in the new campanile now in course of erection on the left of the main entrance to the Cathedral. The largest of these bells stands about 5 feet high.

The Public Works Department has just completed a rather important piece of work in the way of draining nullahs up at the Peak. The valley below the Peak Church—which is the source of several springs, and down which after heavy rain-storms great cataracts of water thunder and precipitate themselves over the rocks by "The Falls"—was full of deep water-holes worn by torrents, which had become the breeding-place of countless mosquitoes. The nullah has now been trained, the holes filled up, and cemented channels made which carry the streams over the precipice down into the Aberdeen Valley. While effecting this work, Mr. Chatham—who has always evinced great interest in the protection of dangerous places—has also erected an iron railing along the edge of the path, past the sentry-box, which is raised to a great portion of its length here on a stone wall, and a fall over which on a dark night or from meeting chairs would be attended with serious if not fatal results.

On the 19th inst. an unoccupied house in course of demolition at 1, Mui Kwai Lane, West Point, collapsed, one Chinese bricklayer being killed and another badly injured. The house in question was one of a row belonging to Mr. E. R. Belilios which had been condemned by the Public Works Department. They were being pulled down, and it was in the course of these operations that the accident occurred. The outer wall of the house gave way, falling outward, and the top floor, deprived of support, came down on the first floor, where two workmen were engaged. Both were buried in the debris, and when taken out one was quite dead and the other, a lad of 17, had his leg broken in two places. He had a narrow escape from being killed, being saved only by the protection afforded by some beams which had fallen in such a position as to keep the descending masonry and brickwork from burying him completely. He was sent to the Government Civil Hospital for treatment while the body of his less fortunate fellow-workman was removed to the mortuary.

In Market Street, Hunghom, on the 18th inst., a savage and unprovoked assault was committed by a number of Chinese employees at the Kowloon Docks upon the persons of four members of the crew of the Chinese customs cruiser *Kaiping*, at present lying in dock. The assailants, who numbered about half-a-dozen, were armed with knives and hammers, and attacked the others with great fury. Against their armed opponents the customs men could do nothing to defend themselves, and two sustained severe injuries before the attack ceased on the arrival of the police from Hunghom Station. One man was caught red-handed, but no other arrests were effected, it being impossible to distinguish the culprits in the crowd that had collected. The prisoner was charged before Mr. J. H. Kemp, Acting Police Magistrate, on the 18th inst., and sentenced to four months' hard labour without the option of a fine. No reason was assigned for the assault, which is thought to be the outcome of hereditary enmity on the part of the Dock workers, who are northern men.



The Bishop of Manila is on a visit to Hongkong, having arrived on the 19th inst.

Chan Fung, a coolie, was accidentally killed at Hunghom on the 19th inst. by a fall from a plank while carrying cement-barrels on board a junk at the cement-works there.

The appointment by H.E. the Governor of Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., as Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council during the absence on leave of the Hon. R. Shewan, is notified in the *Gazette*.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending 15th August were 208 non-Chinese and 74 Chinese to the former and 49 non-Chinese and 220 Chinese to the latter institution.

During the current year the minting of silver dollars and 10-cent pieces at the Canton Mint has been almost nil, while 20 cent pieces have formed the bulk of the new coins issued. This development has made itself evident in the Hongkong money-market, which is at present flooded with 20-cent pieces.

The police are enquiring into the circumstances attending the finding on the 18th inst. of the dead body of a newly-born Chinese male child on the pathway off Queen's Road West leading to the Government Civil Hospital. A grass cord drawn tightly round the child's neck suggested that death had been caused by strangulation.

The Hongkong A. D. C. contemplates putting on *Lord and Lady Algy* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* this autumn. It appears that after the beginning of December it is impossible to secure the Theatre for a long enough period to enable the A. D. C. to rehearse and stage a play, which is unfortunate, to say the least of it.

On the 15th inst. Mr. George P. Lammett sold by public auction the wreck of the French steamer *Paul Doumer* with all her anchors, chains, gear, stores, appurtenances and cargo, as she now lies about 13 miles due south of the White Rock and about 8 miles north-east of Raleigh Rock. The wreck was sold to Mr. Cheong Kin for \$1,600.

The mortality returns for June, just published in the *Gazette*, show a total of 725 deaths in the month—44 in the European and foreign community (41 civilians, 3 Army) and 681 among the Chinese. Plague caused 358 deaths, including those of 13 European and foreign civilians; and chest affections, 88 deaths. The rates in the principal registration districts were:—British and foreign civil population, 48.8 per 1,000 per annum; Chinese, Victoria, land 30.6, harbour 14.5; Chinese, Kowloon, 26.4; Chinese, whole Colony, land 29.2, boat 12.4; land and boat, 26.6; whole civil community, 27.3.

Daniel Joseph Murphy, better known as "Captain Murphy," an old hand on the China coast and a well-known resident in Hongkong, fell from the veranda of the Praya East Hotel on the 18th inst. and was instantly killed. P.C. Culliford witnessed the fall. At 3.40 a.m. he was walking along in the direction of the Praya East Hotel, and when about twenty yards away from the establishment he saw a man's body strike the roadway. When Culliford reached the spot he found that life was extinct. Murphy had sustained shocking injuries to his head, which was split open from front to back as far down as the nose. The body was removed to the mortuary by the police.

One of the best polo matches this season took place at the V. R. C. enclosure on the 18th inst., when two teams representing the Club Lusitano and the Y.M.C.A. met each other. The match started at 5.45 p.m. before a large crowd, which included a few ladies. Both sides played an excellent game, and an even one, as the result, one goal all, shows. Only one opening was secured in the first half, and it fell to the Club Lusitano, who later fell before a spirited attack by their opponents and conceded the equalising point. Messrs. C. Cook and R. Witchell on the Y.M.C.A. side and Messrs. F. Barros and A. E. Alves on that of the Club Lusitano were conspicuous by their dashing play. Mr. T. Meek was referee, Mr. A. Loureiro time-keeper, and Messrs. F. White and D. Bain were linesmen.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The Chinese cruiser *Wong Tai*, which sunk recently after colliding with the *Empress of India*, was carrying down arms to the Imperial authorities at Canton. These have therefore been lost.

The death is announced from Japan of the Rev. Dr. J. G. Cleveland, after a short illness. Deceased was forty-six years of age, and was a well known missionary in Japan, where he resided for sixteen years.

The date of the Singapore Autumn race meeting has been altered from October to the 17th, 19th and 21st November, the reason being that the griffins cannot be expected before the 1st September.

The H.K., C. & M. S.B. Co.'s new steamer *Tackling* (Captain Webster) has gone to Canton and will, we understand, enter on the West River trade, in addition to the two stern-wheelers now running—the *Nanning* and the *Sainam*.

A consignment of walers arrived on the *Changsha* from Australia on the 17th inst. and attracted a lot of attention on their way along Queen's Road to Kennedy's Stables. The animals are bound for Yokohama and were merely being transhipped here.

The King of Siam appointed a special commission to enquire into the cause of the fire on the 9th ult. in the Phra Buddha Prang Prasat, which we recorded not long ago. The commissioners found that the conflagration was undoubtedly caused by the electric light wires in the roof above the ceiling.

News from Seoul says that the Crown Prince has asked for permission to retire from active life and has requested that Prince Yong be declared heir to the Throne in his stead. The Crown Prince's relations with Lady Om (who is anxious for an elevation in rank) have always been strained. But the Emperor in his reply to the Crown Prince has promised that so long as he sits on the Throne Lady Om shall not be made Empress.

The *Siam Observer* of the 5th inst. learns on official authority that intimation was that day sent to the Banks that the Government's exchange rate for ticals, until further notice, was 18 pence the pound sterling. The change has been made in consequence of the Siamese Government having effected a considerable sale at the rate of 18.25—a circumstance which affords evidence of an anticipated early resumption of the demand for money.

In anticipation of war between Russia and Japan, says the *Tokyo Asahi*, the quotations of Rangoon rice, have suddenly gone up by 20 sen per 100 catties, or 5.35 yen on arrival at Japan. A Rangoon correspondent has wired to a Japanese merchant in Yokohama, asking whether the shipment of goods ordered be covered by war insurance, which is quoted at 12.5 sen per 100 catties, but the firm has wired back that there is no such necessity.

## COMMERCIAL.

### CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 21st August.—No arrivals.

### SUGAR.

HONGKONG 21st August.—The market being firm, the prices are the same as when last reported.

|                              |                  |          |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------|
| Shekloong, No. 1, White..... | \$8.55 to \$8.60 | per cwt. |
| Do. " 2, White.....          | 7.70 to 7.75     | "        |
| Shekloong, No. 1, Brown..... | 6.10 to 6.15     | "        |
| Do. " 2, Brown.....          | 5.95 to 6.00     | "        |
| Swatow, No. 1, White.....    | 8.40 to 8.45     | "        |
| Do. " 1, White.....          | 7.60 to 7.65     | "        |
| Do. " 1, Brown.....          | 5.90 to 5.95     | "        |
| Do. " 2, Brown.....          | 5.80 to 5.85     | "        |
| Foochow Sugar Candy.....     | 12.70 to 12.75   | "        |
| Shekloong ".....             | 10.85 to 10.90   | "        |

### RICE.

HONGKONG 21st August.—The prices are the same as when last reported.

|                                      |                |  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Saigon, Ordinary.....                | \$3.90 to 3.95 |  |
| " Round, Good quality.....           | 5.35 to 5.40   |  |
| " Long.....                          | 5.47 to 5.52   |  |
| Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2..... | 4.05 to 4.10   |  |
| " Garden, " No. 1.....               | 4.55 to 4.60   |  |
| " White,.....                        | 5.42 to 5.42   |  |
| " Fine Cargo.....                    | 5.58 to 5.63   |  |

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Bengal*, sailed on 15th August. For London:—50 bales waste silk, 35 bales raw silk, 5 cases silks, 32 cases bristles, 4 cases cigars, 3 cases feathers, 230 half-chests tea, 10 packages sundries. For London and Manchester:—50 bales waste silk. For Gibraltar:—2 cases silks. For Lyons:—260 bales raw silk. For Marseilles 315 bales raw silk, 1 case bird feather, 4 cases hair. For St. Chamond:—10 bales raw silk. For Zurich:—1 case silk.

## MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 14th Aug.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

|                            |                      |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...  | \$ 90.00 to \$128.00 | per bale |
| English—Nos. 16 to 24, ... | 114.00 to 120.00     |          |
| " 22 to 24, ...            | 120.00 to 128.00     |          |
| " 28 to 32, ...            | 136.00 to 142.00     |          |
| " 38 to 42, ...            | 155.00 to 170.00     |          |

### COTTON PIECE GOODS—

|                                                   |              |           |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. ....                        | 2.30 to 2.40 | per piece |
| 7 lbs. ....                                       | 2.50 to 2.80 |           |
| 8.4 lbs. ....                                     | 3.50 to 4.25 |           |
| 9 to 10 lbs. ....                                 | 4.30 to 5.50 |           |
| White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. ....                 | 2.90 to 3.25 |           |
| 58 to 60 " ....                                   | 3.50 to 4.00 |           |
| 64 to 66 " ....                                   | 4.25 to 5.75 |           |
| Fine.....                                         | 6.00 to 8.50 |           |
| Book-folds.....                                   | 5.00 to 8.00 |           |
| Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....                      | 0.85 to 1.75 |           |
| T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.....               | 2.30 to 2.80 |           |
| 7lbs. (32 " ).....                                | 2.50 to 3.00 |           |
| 6lbs. (32 " ), Mexs.....                          | 2.50 to 3.00 |           |
| 7lbs. (32 " ).....                                | 3.10 to 3.30 |           |
| 8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.).....                        | 3.30 to 4.05 |           |
| Drills, English—40 yds., 13 1/4 " to 14 lbs. .... | 4.75 to 7.30 |           |

### FANCY COTTONS—

|                                           |              |  |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/2 to 8 lbs. .... | 1.70 to 6.00 |  |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|--|

Brocades—Dyed..... to —

### DAMASKS—

|                           |              |          |
|---------------------------|--------------|----------|
| Chintzes—Assorted.....    | 0.09 to 0.15 | per yard |
| Velvets—Black, 22 in..... | 0.27 to 0.65 |          |
| Velveteens—18 in.....     | 0.17 to 0.23 |          |

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk..... 0.25 to 5.00 per dozen

### VOLLENS—

|                                    |              |          |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.....  | 0.75 to 2.25 | per yard |
| Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths..... | 1.25 to 3.00 |          |

Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs. .... 6.95 to 9.75 per piece

Assorted..... 7.10 to 9.90

Camlets—Assorted..... 12.50 to 33.00

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } 12.50 to 21.00

Assorted..... }

Orleans—Plain..... 9.50 to —

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. .... 0.60 to 1.75 per pair

Fine quality..... 1.60 to 2.50

### METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod..... 4.40 to — per picul

Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)..... 4.40 to —

Swedish Bar..... 4.45 to —

Small Round Rod..... 4.65 to —

Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in. .... 6.3 to —

Wire, 16/25..... 10.00 to —

Wire Rope, Old..... 3.20 to —

Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop..... 8.15 to —

Australian..... 8.15 to —

Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz. .... 41.50 to —

Vivian's 14/20 oz. .... 41.50 to —

Elliot's 14/20 oz. .... 41.50 to —

Composition Nails..... 61.00 to —

Japan Copper, Slabs..... 39.00 to —

Tin..... 77.00 to —

Tin-Plates..... 7.20 to — per box, per

Steel 1/2 to 1..... 6.75 to — per cwt. cas

SUNDRIES—..... per picul

Quicksilver..... 170.00 to —

Window Glass..... 5.00 to — per box

SHANGHAI, August 12th (from Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report):—

Very little of any importance has transpired in our market since the issue of our last circular on the 6th instant and for the time being both dealers and merchants show not the slightest inclination to operate. The latter are reported to have some orders in hand but the further rise of about 8% in Exchange has caused them to delay buying for the present and await further developments. One or two importers are reported to have sold a few lines of English Shirtings under favorite chops but the general run of Importers find absolutely



nothing doing, except here and there an occasional order for a few cases of special Fancies. We hear that a few orders for Greys and Whites have been transmitted to Manchester but the limits were quite impracticable. Clearances for the River Ports are fairly satisfactory but the other markets are taking next to nothing. The Newchwang merchants are reported to have bought some 2,000 bales of American Sheetings and Drills also about 1,000 bales of Indian Yarn. There has been a little enquiry from Tientsin and a few sales are reported to have been made, but the quantities are woefully small. There is nothing doing for Chefoo which has not yet recovered from the recent disastrous floods. Some 1,500 bales of Indian Yarn have been taken for the Up-River markets and the Hankow merchants are also reported to have bought some Fast Black Italians and Cotton Lastings. Further advances are reported in Cotton, the latest quotations being 6.72d. for Mid-American and 9d. for Egyptian. The Liverpool market is flat, with Manchester quiet. The shipments of Plain Cottons from United Kingdom to this port for July are wired as 16 million yards against 27 million yards for same period last year.

### SHARE REPORTS.

**HONGKONG, 21st August, 1903.**—There has been no improvement in the general condition of our market during the past week and rates in many cases have still further declined.

**BANKS.**—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled very erratic with small sales up to \$670 cum dividend and down to \$640 ex dividend, closing with small buyers at \$642 ex the dividend of 30s. at 1s. 8d. = \$18 per share for the half-year ended 30th June, paid on the 17th instant. London is slightly higher at \$65. Nationals are unchanged and with no business.

**MARINE INSURANCES.**—Unions are quiet with no notable buyers at \$497½. China Traders have declined to \$60 with small sales. North Chinas have sold and more shares are obtainable at Tls. 225. Yangtszes have sold at \$133, and Cantons after small sales at \$177½ can be placed at \$178.

**FIRE INSURANCES.**—Hongkongs are quiet at \$327½ with small sales reported at the rate. Chinas have sold at \$86½ and are in further request.

**SHIPPING.**—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are easier with some sellers at \$36. Indo-Chinas after receding to \$80 are in demand at \$83. China and Manila continue on offer at \$20 and \$15 for the old and new issues respectively. Douglases have declined to \$40 with small sales and further sellers. Star Ferries are procurable at \$28 (old) and \$18 (new). Shell Transports can still be obtained at £1. 2s. 6d.

**REFINERIES.**—China Sugars have sold at \$95 and \$95½ and continue in some request at \$95. Luzons are wanted at \$10.

**MINING.**—Raubas have sold at \$9 and \$9½ and close with sellers at the higher rate. Other stocks under this head are unchanged and without business.

**DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.**—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled easy and have been disposed of at \$213, \$212 and \$211, closing with buyers at \$210. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are in demand but unobtainable at \$88. New Amoy Docks can still be placed at \$37½. Farnhams are unaltered at Tls. 152½ with sales at this figure in the North.

**LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.**—Hongkong Lands have sold at \$156 and continue in demand at \$155. Kowloon Lands and West Points are unchanged and without business. Humphreys Estates have declined to \$11 sellers. Hongkong Hotels are easier with some sellers at \$153. Orientes are in demand at \$50.

**COTTON MILLS.**—We have no business to report under this head and quotations are unchanged.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Green Island Cements are on offer at \$24. Electrics (old) can be procured at \$12½; the new issue is in small request at \$7. Ices are on offer at \$250, and Tramways at \$320. Steam Waterboats have advanced to \$15 buyers. Bell's Asbestos are easier with sellers at \$5½. China Providents are on offer at \$9½.

**MEETINGS.**—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, ordinary half-yearly meeting on the 24th instant. Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Limited, extraordinary general meeting on the 31st October.

### Closing quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY.                           | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS.                       |
|------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Banks—</b>                      |          |                                   |
| Hongkong & Shanghai                | \$125    | \$642½, ex div., (L'don, £65.0s.) |
| Natl. Bank of China                |          |                                   |
| A. Shares                          | 28       | \$29                              |
| B. Shares                          | 28       | \$29                              |
| Foun. Shares                       | 21       | \$10                              |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A.              | 21       | \$5½, sellers                     |
| Campbell, Moore & Co.              | \$10     | \$40, sellers                     |
| China-Borneo Co., Ltd.             | \$12     | \$10, sellers                     |
| China Light & Power Co., Ltd.      | \$20     | \$6½, buyers                      |
| China Prov. L. & M.                | \$10     | \$9½, sellers                     |
| China Sugar                        | \$100    | \$95, buyers                      |
| Cigar Companies—                   |          |                                   |
| Alhambra Limited                   | \$500    | \$20, buyers                      |
| Philippine Tobacco Trust Co., Ltd. | \$50     | \$18, sellers                     |
| <b>Cotton Mills—</b>               |          |                                   |
| Ewo                                | Tls. 100 | Tls. 36                           |
| International                      | Tls. 75  | Tls. 40, sellers                  |
| Laou Kung Mow                      | Tls. 100 | Tls. 40, buyers                   |
| Soychee                            | Tls. 500 | Tls. 160                          |
| Hongkong                           | \$100    | \$15, buyers                      |
| Dairy Farm                         | \$6      | \$12                              |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo.                | \$25     | \$47½                             |
| Green Island Cement                | \$10     | \$24, sellers                     |
| H. & C. Bakery                     | \$50     | \$40                              |
| Hongkong & C. Gas                  | \$10     | \$140, buyers                     |
| Hongkong Electric                  | \$10     | \$12.75, sellers                  |
| H. H. L. Tramways                  | \$5      | \$7, buyers                       |
| Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.     | \$100    | \$320                             |
| Hongkong Hotel                     | \$50     | \$153, sellers                    |
| Hongkong Ice                       | \$25     | \$250, sellers                    |
| H. & K. Wharf & G.                 | \$50     | \$88, buyers                      |
| Hongkong Rope                      | \$50     | \$145                             |
| H. & W. Dock Insurance—            |          |                                   |
| Canton                             | \$50     | \$178, buyers                     |
| China Fire                         | \$20     | \$86½, buyers                     |
| China Traders                      | \$25     | \$60, sales                       |
| Hongkong Fire                      | \$50     | \$327½, sales & sel               |
| North China                        | \$25     | Tls. 225 sales & sel              |
| Straits                            | \$20     | \$1, buyers                       |
| Union                              | \$100    | \$497½                            |
| Yangtsze                           | \$60     | \$133, sales                      |
| <b>Land and Building—</b>          |          |                                   |
| Hongkong Land Inv.                 | \$100    | \$155, buyers                     |
| Humphreys Estate                   | \$10     | \$11, sellers                     |
| Kowloon Land & B.                  | \$30     | \$38, sellers                     |
| West Point Building                | \$50     | \$50½                             |
| Luzon Sugar                        | \$100    | \$10, buyers                      |
| Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.           | \$50     | \$15, buyers                      |
| <b>Mining—</b>                     |          |                                   |
| Charbonnages                       | Fcs. 250 | \$60, sellers                     |
| Jelebu                             | \$5      | \$1, sellers                      |
| Punjum                             | \$11     | \$2                               |
| Do. Preference                     | \$1      | 30 cents, buyers                  |
| Raubas                             | 18.10    | \$9½, sellers                     |
| New Amoy Dock                      | \$6½     | \$37½, buyers                     |
| Oriente Hotel, Manila              | \$50     | \$50, buyers                      |
| Powell, Ltd.                       | \$10     | \$9, sellers                      |
| Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.           | \$50     | \$50                              |
| <b>Steamship Coys.—</b>            |          |                                   |
| China and Manila                   | \$50     | \$20, sellers                     |
| Douglas Steamship                  | \$50     | \$40, sellers                     |
| H. Canton and M.                   | \$15     | \$36, sellers                     |
| Indo-China S. N.                   | \$10     | \$3, buyers                       |
| Shel Transportand Trading Co.      | \$1      | £1. 2. 6. sellers                 |
| Star Ferry                         | \$10     | \$28, sellers                     |
| S. C. F. Boyd & Co., Ltd.          | Tls. 103 | Tls. 152½, sales                  |
| Tebrau Planting Co.                | \$5      | nominal                           |
| United Asbestos                    | \$4      | \$9.10, buyers                    |
| Do.                                | \$10     | \$200, buyers                     |
| Universal Trading Co., Ltd.        | \$5      | \$23, buyers                      |
| Watkins Ltd.                       | \$10     | \$7, buyers                       |
| Watson & Co., A. S.                | \$10     | \$14½, buyers                     |

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

**SHANGHAI, 14th August (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).** The past week has accentuated the pinch caused by tight money, and a considerable business has been done in our principal stocks at gradually falling rates. A steady desire to realize still animates holders of shares, and we cannot see our way to prognosticate any improvement just now. **BANKS.**—H. and S. Banks.—In spite of the dividend declared last week, this stock has declined to \$670 nominal. **MARINE INSURANCE.**—Small transactions in Yangtszes have taken place at \$138. **FIRE INSURANCE.**—Nothing reported. **SHIPPING.**—

Indo-Chinas have been transacted in the same erratic manner from Tls. 65 down to Tls. 62½ for August, and forward rates about the same. Hongkong quotes \$91 nominal. Shanghai Tug Boats have sellers at Tls. 360. **DOCKS.**—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co. Ltd. Large quantities have changed hands this week at declining rates, and we close with sellers at Tls. 152½ for August and Tls. 160 for December. **SUGAR.**—No business reported. **MINING.**—A steady demand for Chinese Engineering and Mining Co. shares has brought the rates up to Tls. 7. for bearer and Tls. 8.80 for London scrip, and there are buyers at these rates. **LAND.**—Shanghai Lands have declined to Tls. 102. **INDUSTRIAL.**—Maatschappij have dropped during the week from Tls. 300 to Tls. 287½, closing with sellers. Forward rates are Tls. 290 September, 295 October, 300 November and 305 December. No announcement of dividend has yet been made. In other Stocks under this heading nothing is reported, but it is safe to say there are sellers at quotations. **STORES.**—No transactions have taken place, except Astors at \$29. **MISCELLANEOUS.**—Nothing doing.

### EXCHANGE.

SATURDAY, 22nd August.

|                                           |             |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>ON LONDON.</b>                         |             |
| Telegraphic Transfer                      | 1/9½        |
| Bank Bills, on demand                     | 1/9½        |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight             | 1/10        |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight            | 1/10½       |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight               | 1/10½       |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight        | 1/10½       |
| <b>ON PARIS.</b>                          |             |
| Bank Bills, on demand                     | 229½        |
| Credits 4 months' sight                   | 233         |
| <b>ON GERMANY.</b>                        |             |
| On demand                                 | 186½        |
| <b>ON NEW YORK.</b>                       |             |
| Bank Bills, on demand                     | 44½         |
| Credits, 60 days' sight                   | 45½         |
| <b>ON BOMBAY.</b> —Telegraphic Transfer   | 136½        |
| Bank, on demand                           | 136½        |
| <b>ON CALCUTTA.</b> —Telegraphic Transfer | 136½        |
| Bank, on demand                           | 136½        |
| <b>ON SHANGHAI.</b> —Bank, at sight       | 72½         |
| Private, 30 days' sight                   | 73½         |
| <b>ON YOKOHAMA.</b>                       |             |
| On demand                                 | 88½         |
| <b>ON MANILA.</b>                         |             |
| On demand                                 | nominal     |
| <b>ON SINGAPORE.</b>                      |             |
| On demand                                 | nominal     |
| <b>ON BATAVIA.</b>                        |             |
| On demand                                 | 109½        |
| <b>ON HAIPHONG.</b>                       |             |
| On demand                                 | 1½ p.c. pm. |
| <b>ON SAIGON.</b>                         |             |
| On demand                                 | 1 p.c. pm.  |
| <b>ON BANGKOK.</b> —On demand             | 63½         |
| <b>SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate</b>     | \$10.95     |
| <b>GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael</b>      | 58.50       |
| <b>SILVER, per oz.</b>                    | 25½         |

### VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

**FOR ANTWERP.**—Kintuck, Nestor, Agamemnon, Glaucus, Palawan, Tydeus, Awa Maru, Pak Ling, Sithonia.  
**FOR LONDON.**—Palawan, Valetta, Kintuck, Nestor, Pak Ling, Glaucus, Merionethshire, Awa Maru, Agamemnon.  
**FOR LIVERPOOL.**—Pingsuey, Jason.  
**FOR MARSEILLES.**—Nestor, Awa Maru, Caledonien, Agamemnon, Glaucus, Kintock, Pak Ling.  
**FOR BREMEN.**—Kiautschou, Konigsberg.  
**FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.**—Sithonia, Konigsberg, Andalusia, Abessinia.  
**FOR NEW YORK.**—Arabia, Baron Driesen, Mogul.  
**FOR PORTLAND (Or.).**—Indrasamha.  
**FOR VICTORIA, B.C.**—Deucalion, Aki Maru, Olympia, Shinano Maru.  
**FOR VANCOUVER.**—Empress of India, Tartar.  
**FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.**—Changsha, Empress.  
**FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.**—Laisang.  
**FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO AND BOMBAY.**—Nankin.  
**FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.**—Bombay Maru.



## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

August—  
**ARRIVALS.**  
 14, Andalusia, German str., from Hamburg.  
 14, An Pho, British str., from Saigon.  
 14, Bengal, British str., from Shanghai.  
 14, Changchow, British str., from Canton.  
 14, Feiching, British str., from Canton.  
 14, Foochow, British str., from Canton.  
 14, Kaiser Carl VI., Aust. cr., from Woosung.  
 14, Kwongang, British str., from Canton.  
 14, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.  
 14, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.  
 14, Ningpo, British str., from Shanghai.  
 14, Perla, British str., from Manila.  
 14, Ulabrand, Norwegian str., from Moji.  
 14, Indrapura, British str., from Portland.  
 15, Argonaut, British cr., from Weihaiwei.  
 15, Arnold Layken, German str., from Saigon.  
 15, Esang, British str., from Shanghai.  
 15, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.  
 15, Edw. Barry, Russian str., from Moji.  
 15, Fausang, British str., from Canton.  
 15, Glenturret, British str., from London.  
 15, Maiduru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.  
 15, Taishun, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 15, Wuchang, British str., from Cebu.  
 16, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.  
 16, Hiusang, British str., from Java.  
 16, Kweiyang, British str., from Shanghai.  
 16, Petchaburi, German str., from Bangkok.  
 16, Rosetta Maru, Japan str., from Manila.  
 16, Tetartos, German str., from Swatow.  
 17, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.  
 17, Changaba, British str., from Sydney.  
 17, Hongwan I, British str., from Singapore.  
 17, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.  
 17, Idzumi Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.  
 17, Independent, German str., from Iloilo.  
 17, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.  
 17, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.  
 17, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.  
 17, Loyal, German str., from Hongay.  
 17, M. Bacquehem, Austrian str., from Kobe.  
 18, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.  
 18, Bayern, German str., from Bremen.  
 18, Empress of India, Brit. str., from Vancouver.  
 18, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.  
 18, Hannan, British str., from Manila.  
 18, Kong Beng, German str., from Bangkok.  
 18, Kowloon, German str., from Canton.  
 18, Kungping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 18, Marie Jebson, Ger. str., from Samarang.  
 18, Sachsen, German str., from Shanghai.  
 18, Triumph, German str., from Moji.  
 18, Tydeus, British str., from Shanghai.  
 18, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.  
 19, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.  
 19, City of Peking, Amr. str., from S. F.isco.  
 19, Doric, British str., from San Francisco.  
 19, Guthrie, British str., from Moji.  
 19, Huron, British str., from Moji.  
 19, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 19, Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.  
 19, Mausang, British str., from Sandakan.  
 19, Waisang, British str., from Wuhu.  
 20, Annam, French str., from Dunquerque.  
 20, Ayr, British str., from Kutchinotzu.  
 20, Bengloe, British str., from Kutchinotzu.  
 20, Bourbon, French str., from Saigon.  
 20, Chiyeun, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 20, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Swatow.  
 20, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.  
 20, Hakata Maru, Japanese str., from Japan.  
 20, Hupsh, British str., from Wuhu.  
 20, Ningpo, British str., from Canton.  
 20, Palawan, British str., from Foochow.  
 20, Pinggu y, British str., from Liverpool.  
 20, Socotra, British str., from London.  
 21, Arabia, German str., from Amoy.  
 21, Benalder, British str., from London.  
 21, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.  
 21, Nanshan, British str., from Samarang.  
 21, Pelayo, British str., from Pulo Simbilan.  
 21, Triglav, Austrian str., from Touron.  
 21, Tsinan, German str., from Kolsichang.  
 21, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.  
 22, Din, Portuguese g.b.t., from Macao.  
 22, Esang, British str., from Canton.  
 22, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.  
 22, Kwallin, British str., from Canton.  
 22, Lombardia, Italian cruiser, from Amoy.  
 22, Marie Rickmers, Ger. str., from Swatow.  
 22, Nanyang, German str., from Iloilo.  
 22, Pitsaulok, German str., from Bangkok.  
 22, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.

22, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.  
 22, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.

## August— DEPARTURES.

14, Ajax, British str., for London.  
 14, Choyang, British str., for Canton.  
 14, Chusan, British str., for Shanghai.  
 14, Ellen Rickmers, German str., for Swatow.  
 14, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.  
 14, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.  
 14, Hongkong Maru, Jap. str., for S. F.isco.  
 14, Inaba Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.  
 14, Koun Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.  
 14, Mongkut, German str., for Bangkok.  
 14, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.  
 14, Rubi, British str., for Manila.  
 14, Sunkiang, British str., for Manila.  
 14, Taichow, German str., for Hoihow.  
 14, Teucer, British str., for Nagasaki.  
 15, Banca, British str., for Bombay.  
 15, Bengal, British str., for Europe.  
 15, Changchow, British str., for Shanghai.  
 15, Crown of Arragon, Brit. str., for Foochow.  
 15, Feiching, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 15, Foochow, British str., for Shanghai.  
 15, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., for Australia.  
 15, Konigsberg, German str., for Yokohama.  
 15, Pronto, German str., for Shanghai.  
 15, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Newchwang.  
 15, Saint Bede, British str., for New York.  
 15, Tientsin, British str., for Amoy.  
 15, Yuensung, British str., for Manila.  
 16, Andalusia, German str., for Shanghai.  
 16, Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Coast Ports.  
 16, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.  
 16, Kweilin, British str., for Canton.  
 16, Nanshaug, British str., for Chefoo.  
 16, Sirius, British cruiser, for Weihaiwei.  
 16, Victoria, Swedish str., for Singapore.  
 17, Esang, British str., for Canton.  
 17, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 17, Ningchow, British str., for Tacoma.  
 18, Clara Jebson, German str., for Pakhoi.  
 18, Devawongse, German str., for Bangkok.  
 18, Fausang, British str., for Samarang.  
 18, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.  
 18, Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.  
 18, Taishun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 18, Tetartos, German str., for Sourabaya.  
 19, Arnold Layken, German str., for Saigon.  
 19, Arraton Apoar, British str., for Calcutta.  
 19, Bayern, German str., for Shanghai.  
 19, Haimun, British str., for Tamsui.  
 19, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.  
 19, Idzumi Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.  
 19, Kaifong, British str., for Manila.  
 19, Kaiser Carl VI., Austrian cr., for home.  
 19, Kungping, Chinese str., for Foochow.  
 19, Machew, German str., for Bangkok.  
 19, P. C. C. Kiao, German str., for Bangkok.  
 19, Sacsen, German str., for Europe.  
 19, Tydeus, British str., for London.  
 19, Ulabrand, Norwegian str., for Moji.  
 19, Whamboa, British str., for Shanghai.  
 20, Clara Jebson, German str., for Hoihow.  
 20, Hangsang, British str., for Canton.  
 20, Hongwan I, British str., for Amoy.  
 20, Kowloon, German str., for Chinkiang.  
 20, Loyal, German str., for Hongay.  
 20, M. Bacquehem, Austrian str., for Trieste.  
 20, Persia, Austrian str., for Yokohama.  
 20, Pleiades, Amr. str., for Tacoma.  
 20, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.  
 20, Undine, Norwegian str., for Saigon.  
 20, Wuchang, British str., for Iloilo.  
 21, Annam, French str., for Tongku.  
 21, An Pho, British str., for Saigon.  
 21, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.  
 21, Bengloe, British str., for Moulmin.  
 21, Glenturret, British str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Hailoong, British str., for Amoy.  
 21, Hupsh, British str., for Canton.  
 21, Ingalls, U.S. trspt., for Manila.  
 21, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Loongsang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Lyonsmoon, German str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Waisang, British str., for Canton.  
 22, Albany, U.S. cruiser, for Chefoo.  
 22, Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 22, Cincinnati, U.S. cruiser, for Chefoo.  
 22, City of Peking, Amr. str., for S. Francisco.  
 22, Claverhill, British str., for Manila.  
 22, Hakata Maru, Japanese str., for London.  
 22, Huron, British str., for Moji.  
 22, Independent, German str., for Saigon.  
 22, Indrapur, British str., for Portland.  
 22, Ningpo, British str., for Shanghai.  
 22, Pingsuey, British str., for London.

22, Raleigh, U.S. cruiser, for Chefoo.  
 22, Triglav, Austrian str., for Swatow.  
 22, Vale of Doon, Sarawak barque, for Rajang.

## PASSENGERS LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per *Bengal*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Miss R. Serper, Lieut. Von Iseldeneck, Messrs. C. H. Clarke, Jas. Moore, Milleken, R. Lettingnan, C. E. Le Munyon, A. T. Holly and T. W. Mitchell; from Kobe, Mrs. Hinds, Misses Siebert, Hinds and Robinson; for Colombo, Mr. Filmer Guy; from Shanghai, for London, Serpts. Beckwith and Williamson, Messrs. J. M. Lobb, H. S. King and J. Laurance; for Bombay, Mr. G. B. Palmer.

Per *Sachsen*, from Yokohama, &c., Mrs. Kupschik, Rev. S. Ufford, Capt. Fischkow, Messrs. F. V. Hodgson, R. Petrich, A. Vlaveano, O. Clewz, W. Kroter, A. Heitsch R. Guessefeld McArthur and G. Thiel.

Per *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, Dr. C. Detzer, Messrs. Paul Reiss and P. W. Nash; from Yokohama, Mrs. and Miss Bell, Miss Hope, Messrs. V. Rhodes and E. Sellers; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Essabhooy and child, Capt. Kirkpatrick, Messrs. H. S. Abdealby and C. J. Tyndle Lea; from Shanghai, Messrs. W. J. Southam, W. A. Thurman and J. G. Thomas.

Per *Bayern*, for Hongkong, from Bremen, Mr. Erich Schmidt; from Genoa, Mr. Adolf Schetzel; from Colombo, Mr. John E. Spencer; from Penang, Mr. A. E. J. Duigemans; from Singapore, Messrs. J. W. Cashier, Bowder and W. D. Graham.

Per *City of Peking*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. E. C. Phillips, Mrs. M. T. Parsons, Mrs. Lenyer, Misses M. Paritte and Clara Strand, Capt. W. S. Valentine, Dr. Jose Albert, Bishop Brent, Major E. C. Carter, Messrs. J. M. Crago, C. F. Applequist, J. J. Eaton, B. F. Devore, H. H. Henri, H. B. Hanford, W. W. Pettit, S. P. R. Thomas, Wm. L. Gleason, J. H. Furse, C. G. Amell, E. C. Phillips and W. F. McDowit.

Per *Doric*, from San Francisco, Mrs. T. S. Beals, Mrs. B. E. Ingersoll, Mrs. J. J. Peterson, Mrs. J. J. Nesbitt, Mrs. G. J. Pritchard, Mrs. Figueiredo and three children, Mrs. Alvares, Mrs. W. H. Finch, Mrs. C. L. Gorham, Mrs. J. Hall, Mrs. E. V. Johnson, Mrs. F. von Schrader, Mrs. B. E. Lambkin, Miss Irene Lambkin, Mrs. E. P. Dell, Misses E. McDonald, Garcia, C. L. Buckley, M. Peterson, C. Wilson, Alvares and M. Thornton, Mrs. J. Anyon, M. Marti and J. J. Nesbitt, Capt. E. Housbery, Messrs. M. J. Burns, A. V. Dalrymple, T. Delgado, J. R. Duggan, W. H. Finch, C. L. Gorham, V. H. Gregg, M. L. Monson, J. B. Powers, W. L. Shuck, E. Taylor, C. A. Wenzel, W. G. Kenny, G. J. Cox, E. P. Dell, Thos. Thornton, M. S. Beal, J. J. Connor, C. S. Darling, E. V. Doherry, A. J. Finlay, L. H. McLeod, J. A. McManus, H. M. Phillips, M. J. Ryan, A. B. Switzer, H. S. Walker, H. W. Bird, and Major G. J. Pritchard, R.A.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Bengal*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Messrs. F. A. Rickard and Sapper Beard; for Penang, Mr. D. A. Greenwood; for Bombay, Mr. F. Rali; for London, Lieut. Robt. H. Bogle and Mr. L. G. Martin; from Shanghai, for Colombo, Messrs. J. M. Lobb and Filmer Guy; for Bombay, Mr. G. B. Palmer; for London, Messrs. H. S. King and J. Lawrence, Serpt. Beckwith and Quarter Master Serpt. Williamson.

Per *Sachsen*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Messrs. S. D. Bowars, C. Mayo and P. J. Bisschop; for Southampton, Mr. M. Hayes; for London, Miss Gerling and Mr. MacDonald; for Hamburg, Mr. Th. Nass.

Per *Bayern*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. J. Kleinmann, Mrs. D. Weschler and child, Mrs. Ledderson, Dr. Hardy, Messrs. A. Muir, C. Thiel, B. S. Laurence, Bouffart, S. Weinberg, Baesen, C. Fittock, U. I. Jishi, Neuhaus, Kleinmann, K. Namba, K. Kondo and S. Oknumura; for Nagasaki, Messrs. E. Swift, A. B. Dockery, O. Faley, and Miss Osano; for Kobe, Messrs. S. Yamaguchi, G. H. Owens and A. B. Yoder; for Yokohama, Mrs. Le Munyon, Messrs. S. Genach, A. C. J. Dingemann and G. Grayson.

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